United Nations

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination

Forty-first session (11 June-6 July 2001)

General Assembly

Official Records
Fifty-sixth Session
Supplement No. 16 (A/56/16)

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United Nations • New York, 2001

Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

ISSN 0255-2213

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Abbreviations

ACC	Administrative Committee on Coordination
CPC	Committee for Programme and Coordination
DPI	Department of Public Information
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
ICSC	International Civil Service Commission
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
JIU	Joint Inspection Unit
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OIOS	Office of Internal Oversight Services
POPIN	Population Information Network
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UN-NADAF	United Nations New Agenda for Development in Africa
UNDCP	United Nations International Drug Control Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UNSIA	United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa
WTO	World Trade Organization

Chapter I

Organization of the session

1. The Committee for Programme and Coordination held its organizational session (1st meeting) at United Nations Headquarters on 2 May 2001 and its substantive session from 11 June to 6 July 2001. It held a total of 30 meetings and a number of informal consultations.

A. Agenda

2. The agenda for the forty-first session, adopted by the Committee at its 1st meeting, is contained in annex I.

3. In adopting the agenda, the Committee, in accordance with the decision taken at its 2nd meeting, on 11 June 2001, decided to consider at its forty-first session the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "The use of consultants in the United Nations" (A/55/59) and the comments of the Secretary-General thereon (A/55/59/Add.1).

B. Election of officers

4. At its organizational meeting (1st meeting), on 2 May 2001, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Mrs. Sharon **Brennen-Haylock** (Bahamas) Chairperson of the Committee for the forty-first session.

5. At its 2nd and 8th meetings on 11 June 2001 and 14 June 2001, the Committee elected, by acclamation, the remaining members of the Bureau for the forty-first session:

Vice-Chairmen:

Mr. Shinichi **Yamanaka** (Japan)
Mr. Thomas Friedrich Heinrich **Mazet** (Germany)
Mr. Oleksii **Ivaschencko** (Ukraine)

Rapporteur:

Mr. Ayman **Elgammal** (Egypt)

C. Attendance

6. The following States Members of the Committee were represented:

Argentina
Bahamas
Bangladesh
Benin
Botswana
Brazil
Cameroon
China
Comoros
Cuba
Egypt
France
Gabon
Germany
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Italy
Japan
Mauritania
Mexico
Pakistan
Peru
Poland
Portugal
Republic of Korea
Republic of Moldova
Russian Federation
San Marino
Ukraine
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania
United States of America
Uruguay
Zimbabwe

7. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers:

Algeria
Austria
Belgium
Croatia
Dominican Republic
Ethiopia
Finland
Ghana
Guatemala
Guyana
India
Ireland
Israel
Kenya
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Morocco
Nigeria
Norway
Philippines
Saudi Arabia
Singapore
South Africa
Sweden
Syrian Arab Republic
Thailand
Uganda

8. The Permanent Observer Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations was represented.

9. The following regional commissions and specialized agencies were represented.

Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Regional Commissions New York Office

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

World Health Organization (WHO)

10. Also present at the session were the Under-Secretary-General for Administration, the Legal Counsel, the Under-Secretary General for Political Affairs, the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services, the Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services, the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, the Assistant Secretary-General, Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Controller, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Interim Head of the Department of Public Information, the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries, and senior officials of the United Nations Secretariat.

11. At the invitation of the Committee, Mr. Armando Duque, Inspector in the Joint Inspection Unit, also participated in the work of the Committee.

D. Documentation

12. The list of documents before the Committee at its forty-first session is set out in annex II.

E. Adoption of the report of the Committee

13. At its 30th meeting, on 6 July 2001, the Committee adopted the draft report on the work of its forty-first session (E/AC.51/2001/L.6 and Add.1-42).

Chapter II

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

14. At its 10th meeting, on 18 June 2001, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (A/56/82). The report of the Secretary-General was introduced by the Director of the Management Policy Office of the Department of Management, who also responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report. He informed the Committee that the report of the Secretary-General would be reissued for technical reasons.

Discussion

15. Concern was expressed that the report of the Secretary-General reflected a number of measures being taken in four main areas — human resources management, budget-related issues, simplification of processes, and delegation of authority and accountability — rather than an assessment of the results of such measures across a broader range of topics, including, inter alia, those for renewal and reform of the Organization. Future reports should be more detailed and indicate explicitly the way in which efficiency had been improved.

16. A view was expressed that questioned the manner in which the Committee for Programme and Coordination should proceed with its review of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations. In that regard, it was noted that the substantive debate on many issues pertinent to the matter had taken or was taking place in a variety of intergovernmental bodies.

17. A view was expressed that, in accordance with the existing Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, each programme approved by the General Assembly should be subject to a regular evaluation that, among other things, assessed the continuing relevance and effectiveness of the programme.

18. A view was also expressed that each proposed programme should include a specific termination date so that the programme would not be renewed unless the evaluation demonstrated the continuing relevance and effectiveness of the programme.

19. Views were expressed on the need for an analytical assessment of the impact and value added of the measures taken to improve the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.

20. Concern was expressed about the result of efficiency measures related to the use of consultants, outsourcing of translation services and the simultaneous availability of official documentation in electronic form in the six official languages on the United Nations web site.

Conclusions and recommendations

21. The Committee noted the report of the Secretary-General concerning the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (A/56/82).

22. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly:

(a) To strengthen the role of the Joint Inspection Unit in programme evaluation, as foreseen in General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986;

(b) To review the current state of coordination and cooperation among the existing oversight bodies with a view to ensuring greater synergy and mutual complementarity in their joint efforts to improve the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.

Chapter III

Programme questions

A. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Part one
Foreword and introduction

23. At its 6th, 7th and 8th meetings, on 13 and 14 June 2001, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, the first biennial programme budget within the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

24. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the foreword and introduction to the proposed programme budget (A/56/6 (Introduction)) and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the document.

Discussion

25. Satisfaction was expressed with the timely presentation of the budget in its new results-based format, and with the efforts of the Secretary-General to formulate the required objectives, expected accomplishments, and indicators of achievement. The effort to draw clear linkages between the medium-term plan and the resource requests in the budget was considered particularly notable. The view was expressed that many of the indicators seemed appropriate and useful, while others needed to be refined to become more specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound. Concern was expressed that expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement had been rephrased in a selective way compared with the medium-term plan. It was observed that the Committee had a responsibility in that regard to ensure that those programme elements of the proposed programme budget were consistent with the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

26. It was stated that, in the consideration and implementation of results-based budgeting, all the provisions of resolution 55/231 should be adhered to. It was observed that results-based budgeting was not an end in itself and that the measures approved by the Assembly should be implemented in a gradual and incremental manner, bearing in mind the intergovernmental, multilateral and international character of the United Nations. The view was expressed that the United Nations regular budget had its unique features, which should be taken into account in the formulation and application of the indicators of achievements. It was pointed out that not all mandates of the United Nations could be measured against indicators, and that some complex and long-standing political activities might not be realized in a specific time frame.

27. The view was expressed that, despite the formatting improvements, it was still difficult to measure the cost-effectiveness of the regular budget, and that more critical attention should be paid to activities which were rolled over from one budget period to the next, particularly to their continued relevance and effectiveness. With regard to the list of recurrent outputs that were not to be carried out in the subsequent biennium, it was noted that the vast majority of budget sections were not represented, and that there was a need for regular evaluation of all programme activities. While it was recognized that the results-based format established a basis

for improved evaluation, it was also stressed that it was important for the Secretariat to take the necessary steps to ensure that evaluation took place, including the enhancement of existing systems and the implementation of new measures. Further, the view was expressed that many of the expected achievements set out in the proposed budget document were too broad to be evaluated.

28. Concern was expressed that some of the proposed budget sections were not consistent with the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. It was reconfirmed that the medium-term plan was the main political guideline of the Organization and the basis for the elaboration of the proposed programme budget. It was therefore stated that the proposed programme budget had to be adjusted to the parameters contained in the approved medium-term plan, and had to incorporate activities with legislative mandates. With regard to the distribution of resources, concern was expressed that some of the mandates of the medium-term plan had not been sufficiently taken into account, that there was a disproportionate allocation of resources between the different priorities, and that the proposed inputs were not commensurate with the needs of the programmes. It was stated that the priorities approved in resolution 55/233 had to receive resources in accordance with their status as priority areas. The proposed programme budget gave special attention and more resources to non-priority activities. It was also stated that, whereas resource growth was proposed for some areas of activities which were not a priority, only a minimum level of growth was proposed for international cooperation for development. That was considered to be contrary to the statement by the Secretary-General that the phenomenon of globalization presented the single most important set of challenges facing the Organization in the years ahead.

29. It was emphasized that budgetary discipline should be exercised, that new requirements for resources should be closely scrutinized and weighed against continuing commitments, and that resources — including posts — should be redeployed from lower priority areas to higher priority areas. Concern was expressed regarding the ability of the Organization to deliver expanded and increased mandates within the same level of real resources. At the same time, the view was also expressed that further cost efficiencies could be realized and resources should be scrutinized to avoid increases with inadequate justification.

30. Concern was expressed regarding the number of reclassifications and new posts at senior levels indicated in the proposed programme budget. It was noted that, while some justification could be found for supporting increases in posts at the P-2 level, it was more difficult to support posts at the D-2 and ASG levels. The view was expressed that increases in senior-level posts could lead to a distortion in the pyramid staffing structure and to an Organization that was too top-heavy. The implementation of the human resource programme recently approved by the General Assembly was expected to result in lower vacancy rates than those budgeted in the proposals.

31. It was considered that shifting sources of funding from the regular budget to extrabudgetary resources should be avoided. Particular concern was expressed that the transfer of posts between those two sources of funding could lead to too great a reliance on extrabudgetary funding.

32. On the subject of information technology, regret was expressed that, despite considerable investment, no sizeable savings had yet been realized. Taking into account the difficulties that still existed in many countries with regard to Internet

access, the view was expressed that increases in the use of information technology and electronic publishing should not prejudice the availability and distribution of documents in traditional hard copy format and in the official languages.

33. It was underlined that once the proposed programme budget was approved, it was essential that Member States fulfil their financial contributions with the United Nations to give sense to the budgetary process and to ensure the agreed expected accomplishments.

34. It was stated that, in accordance with Regulation 5.8 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, the Committee would prepare a report on the proposed programme budget, containing not only its programme recommendations but also its general assessment of the related resource proposals. In that regard, a view was expressed that, if any additional expenditures were proposed by the Secretary-General for inclusion in the 2001-2003 budget, they should be absorbed through redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or modification of existing activities.

Conclusions and recommendations

35. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative part of the foreword and introduction of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following.

36. The Committee noted the new presentation of the proposed programme budget and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to encourage programme managers to continue their efforts to improve that presentation in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/231 and other relevant resolutions.

37. The Committee noted also that there were some shortcomings in the narrative sections of the proposed programme budget, and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that programme managers comply with the provisions of the medium-term plan in the preparation of the proposed programme budget, in particular with regard to expected accomplishments and indicators/measurements of achievement, and also taking into account the mandates specific to the biennium.

38. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to prepare the next biennial proposed programme budget in full conformity with the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/234, in particular with regard to the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, taking into account the legislative mandates specific to the biennium.

39. The Committee also recommended that the Secretary-General apply objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement to activities relating to executive direction and management. The Committee further recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to invite the Registrar of the International Court of Justice to apply objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement to the activities of the International Court of Justice.

40. The Committee stressed the necessity of rendering the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement to measure achievements in the implementation of the programmes of the Organization, and not that of individual Member States, giving a clear indication of the progress expected during the biennium, taking into account the international character of the United Nations, the purposes of its Charter and its legislative mandates, as well as the fact that the objectives of the Organization might not be realized in one medium-term plan only. The Committee also stressed the necessity of better integrating outputs into the programmatic framework of objectives and expected accomplishments, bearing in mind the direct relationship between input and outputs. The Committee also underlined that expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement should be capable of reflecting what is achievable during the course of the forthcoming biennium.

41. The Committee recommended that more specific references be included in the proposed programme budget to the role of information technology in helping to deliver programmed activity and to render more effective specific activities such as conference-servicing and information policy.

42. The Committee emphasized the importance of an efficient and quality implementation of programmes and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to provide information on how programme managers review their outputs to help Member States determine their continuing relevance and effectiveness, as well as to ensure that there were no duplications.

43. The Committee requested the Secretary-General to study the feasibility of best practices regarding support services among United Nations duty stations.

44. The Committee noted the intention of the Secretary-General, reflected in paragraph 38 of the annex to the foreword and introduction to the proposed programme budget for 2002-2003, to submit an interim report towards the middle of the biennium on progress made regarding the collection of performance data for the indicators of achievement.

45. The Committee, on the issue of documentation for the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, expressed concern at the statement made by the Secretariat that only 25 per cent of the anticipated documentation would be available in time for consideration by the Assembly and recommended that the Assembly reiterate its request to the Secretary-General to strengthen accountability and responsibility measures, where applicable, to correct the situation concerning the submission of documentation consistent with the six-week rule. The Committee supported the Assembly's request to the Secretary-General to ensure that documentation was available in accordance with the six-week rule for the distribution of resources simultaneously in the six official languages of the Assembly.

46. The Committee noted a trend towards an increasing use of extrabudgetary funds for activities that should be funded under the regular budget. In that regard, the Committee recommended that the issue be considered by the General Assembly, taking into account its impact on the implementation of mandated activities and noting the need for all mandated programmes and activities to be adequately funded.

47. Regarding the annex to the introduction to the proposed programme budget, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly consider it in the light of its resolution 55/231 on results-based budgeting.

48. The Committee noted that the distribution of resources among sections should comply fully with the priorities established in the medium-term plan and recommended that the General Assembly give due consideration to that matter.

49. The Committee stressed that all Member States should pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without imposing conditions, to avoid the financial difficulties being experienced by the Organization.

50. The Committee noted that resolution 41/213 called for a comprehensive solution to the problem of additional expenditures deriving from inflation and currency fluctuations. In that regard, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to present an updated study for consideration at its resumed fifty-sixth session.

Section 1
Overall policy-making, direction and coordination

51. At its 14th meeting, on 20 June 2001, the Committee considered section 1, Overall policy-making, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

52. The Controller introduced section 1 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

53. Concerns were expressed on the format of the section, which was different from other sections of the proposed programme budget. The view was expressed that the programme narrative should have been presented in terms of objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, which could have allowed for better evaluation of programme implementation at the end of the biennium.

54. The presentation of resources of travel of representatives to the General Assembly was welcomed, whereby the resources of the Office of the Presidents were presented separately from the travel of representatives of Member States that were least developed countries. It was observed that the fact that the resources for the President of the Assembly did not reflect any growth might have a negative impact on the accomplishment of the President's official responsibility.

55. Reference was made to paragraph 2.7 of section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference services, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, where provisions were made for the special sessions of the Assembly on a new agenda for development in Africa and on disarmament and terrorism; and concern was expressed on the apparent inconsistency of treatment, as provisions were made under that section but no provisions were made under section 1 for the travel of representatives for special sessions of the Assembly.

56. Questions were raised on the number of new posts proposed and on the reclassifications of posts under the section. The view was expressed that detailed programme justifications should have been provided in those respects.

57. The view was expressed that the function of the Office of External Relations in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General appeared to show duplication and overlapping of functions undertaken by other offices. Support was expressed, nevertheless, for the strengthening of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and that of the Office of the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna. Regarding the Office of the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi, the view was expressed that that Office should be more functional, more dynamic and better used.

Conclusions and recommendations

58. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 1, Overall policy-making, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

59. The Committee recommended that the activities related to executive direction and management be presented in terms of objectives, expected accomplishments, and indicators of achievements, where possible.

Section 2
General Assembly affairs and conference services

60. At its 14th and 15th meetings, on 20 June 2001, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference services, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/56/6 (sect.2)).

61. The representatives of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

62. General support was expressed for the activities undertaken by the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services. The view was expressed that the restructuring of the Department in 1997 and the integration of conference services of all United Nations headquarters in the Department had made the usage of conference services, facilities and resources of the Organization more efficient and cost-effective.

63. The importance of the activities under General Assembly affairs and conference services was stressed. Views were expressed that the progressive introduction of new technologies in the conference-servicing process should lead to better quality of services, reduced costs and increased efficiency and productivity in the work of the Department. In that context, it was pointed out that the effects of remote translation and interpretation, computer-assisted translation and the introduction of speech-recognition systems should be constantly monitored and evaluated to ensure that high standards of quality and delivery of services are maintained. Emphasis was placed on the need for consistent compliance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 50/11 of 2 November 1995 on multilingualism in servicing the United Nations organs by the Department. Concern was expressed with regard to a persistent problem of the late issuance of documentation, insufficient quality of the translation and interpretation services in

certain languages and the accumulated backlog in the production of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*.

64. Support was expressed for the introduction of a results-based presentation of the programme, with identifiable objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement with an emphasis on qualitative parameters. It was also stressed that the content of some indicators of achievement required further refinement, in particular through the development of common benchmarks and standards for equal conference services, with a view to allowing for measuring the level of quality of the services. On the other hand, a view was expressed that the programme narrative did not clearly demonstrate a linkage between the programme objectives and the proposed level of resources and productivity targets.

65. Concern was expressed over insufficient efforts by the Department to maintain a full complement of permanent staff in Vienna and Nairobi, which had resulted in prolonged vacancies and forced reliance on more expensive temporary assistance.

66. It was stressed that the Secretary-General must ensure that parliamentary documentation was available in accordance with the six-week rule for simultaneous distribution. A view was also expressed that the status of outsourcing of the translation services of documents and of the simultaneous availability of official documentation in electronic form in the six official languages on the United Nations web site should be reviewed by the General Assembly on the basis of the respective reports of the Secretary-General. It was also stressed that ways needed to be found to improve the quality and timely availability of official documentation.

67. The view was expressed that there was a need for the General Assembly to consider provisions in order to promote career development for the language services staff, and that that should be proposed in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

68. It was stated that, from the "value-for-money" point of view, conversion of a part of temporary assistance funds into established posts should be more efficient. Representatives of the Secretariat shared that opinion.

Conclusions and recommendations

69. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference services, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, with the following amendments:

Paragraph 2.7

At the end of the last sentence, replace the words "on an as-available basis from within the existing capacity of the Department" with the words "in accordance with paragraph 4 of section I of General Assembly resolution 55/222 of 23 December 2000".

Paragraph 2.8

At the end of the fourth sentence, insert the phrase ", without prejudice to the mandates of the General Assembly".

Paragraph 2.19 (d)

At the end of the subparagraph, replace the words "within available resources" with the phrase ", in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and the relevant United Nations resolutions on decolonization".

Paragraph 2.46 (a)

After the first sentence, insert a new sentence, reading: "Translation and publishing of the *Repertoire of Practice of the Security Council* in the six official languages".

Paragraph 2.48

At the end of the fourth sentence, insert the phrase ", in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 54/248 and 55/222".

70. The Committee, having experienced difficulties in interpretation during its forty-first session, recommended to the General Assembly to request the Secretary-General to review the effects of such difficulties on the functioning of meetings, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on actions to be taken to remedy the situation.

71. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly to request the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-sixth session proposals on the conversion of some temporary assistance funds requested in section 2 into established posts wherever that would lead to higher efficiency or to budgetary savings.

Section 3
Political affairs

72. At its 15th meeting, on 20 June 2001, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

73. The Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

74. Support was expressed for the role and activities of the programme. Its importance in the area of maintenance of peace and security was also stressed. Support was also expressed for the new format of the fascicle, and an observation was made that the new format represented a substantial improvement. The view was also expressed that the programme narrative in the budget fascicle should be consistent with the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. In that connection, observations were made that some of the objectives did not reflect the medium-term plan. Observations were also made that some of the indicators of achievement were not clear and, as such, were difficult to measure. Moreover, it was observed that some external factors had been drafted too broadly.

75. The view was expressed that the resources proposed were commensurate with the level of activities of the Department of Political Affairs and that they were appropriately distributed among various subprogrammes. It was noted, however, that the capacity to support the Security Council was not adequate to absorb the increasing activities of the Council. The view was expressed that human resources in the Department should be geographically diversified to ensure better understanding of the issues dealt with by the Department.

76. It was pointed out that Africa faced widespread instability and the political situations in many parts of the continent remained volatile. It was indicated that there was a need for greater cooperation between the Department of Political Affairs and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights regarding the subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa to strengthen the political aspects of the Centre for the promotion of democracy. It was also pointed out that extrabudgetary resources might be necessary to support the activities of the Centre.

77. It was observed that prevention of conflicts was an important area of the programme. The view was expressed that any electoral assistance should be provided at the specific request of Member States. The view was also expressed that elections were the foundations for democracy, and required a substantial amount of resources. In that connection, it was observed that electoral assistance was important, and that there should be substantial support in that area. It was pointed out that the work of the Security Council Sanctions Committees was of high priority. It was observed that the activities of the sanctions committees presented in the proposed programme budget did not reflect adequately the medium-term plan for 2002-2005. The outputs, it was observed, were more of a technical nature and not analytical ones.

78. The view was expressed that the indicators of achievement under subprogramme 5, Question of Palestine, were difficult to measure. It was also noted that the success of the programme was dependent on the level of support given to it.

79. The view was expressed that activities within the Division for Palestinian Rights did not constitute an appropriate use of scarce United Nations resources, since they did nothing to advance the cause of reaching a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, and in fact complicated the search for a negotiated outcome. It was also expressed that the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and other Arabs of the Occupied Territories was not only biased but also duplicative of efforts by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. On the other hand, views were expressed that activities within the Division for Palestinian Rights were fully supported by legislative mandates and thus formed an integral part of the medium-term plan for 2002-2005, which had been approved by the General Assembly during its fifty-fifth session. No one could pretend today that the Palestinian people had been enabled to exercise their inalienable rights on their homeland. To criticize the Division in such terms would do more political harm than financial or administrative good. It would send a wrong signal to the parties in the stalled peace process. The belief was expressed that the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People should continue to pursue its task until the question of Palestine was fully and effectively resolved in accordance with international legitimacy and the relevant United Nations resolutions.

Conclusions and recommendations

80. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 3.3

In line 4 after "Member States", in accordance with paragraph 1.3 of the medium-term plan for 2002-2005, add the following:

> **"and the principles of non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state and of consent".**

Table 3.12

Under *Expected accomplishments*, after "for the conduct of elections", add "in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions".

Under *Indicators of achievement*, replace subparagraph (i) with "Provision of electoral assistance to Member States in response to their request".

Paragraph 3.26

Delete the phrase "a fair and free" and replace it with "an".

At the end of the sentence add "in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions".

Paragraph 3.27

In subparagraph (a) (i) a., delete the words "the principle of periodic and genuine", and add at the end of the sentence "in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions".

In subparagraph (d) (ii), replace "authorities at the regional, national and local level" with "national electoral institutions".

Paragraph 3.38, first sentence

In line 3, after the first sentence, in accordance with paragraph 1.26 of the medium-term plan for 2002-2005, add the following sentence:

> **"Assistance will be provided to the Committee in promoting a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the question of Palestine in accordance with all relevant United Nations resolutions, as well as the full and effective implementation of the Israeli-Palestinian peace agreements".**

81. The Committee recommended that in implementing subprogramme 3, Security Council affairs, adequate capacities should be developed for carrying out analytical and research work in connection with the implementation and effectiveness of mandatory measures or sanctions imposed by the Security Council and their impact on the population in target and third countries as well as the evolution of the concept of "smart" sanctions taking into account special economic problems of affected third states, in accordance with the relevant

provisions of the medium-term plan for 2002-2005. Special economic problems of affected third states should also be duly taken into account.

Section 4
Disarmament

82. At its 16th meeting, on 21 June 2001, the Committee considered section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

83. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced section 4 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

84. The importance of the programme was stressed and support was expressed for the activities carried out by the Department for Disarmament Affairs. It was reaffirmed that the main responsibilities for disarmament lay with Member States and that the United Nations had a central role and primary responsibility in supporting Member States in that sphere.

85. It was noted that, in general, the narrative for section 4 complied with the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. However, concern was expressed that, in some instances, the narrative deviated from the language contained in the plan. It was also observed that further refinements to the indicators of achievement were needed in order to ensure that they could be effectively measurable and quantifiable.

86. The need to maintain balance among the various subprogrammes was underscored. Views were expressed that work in the field of nuclear weapons was not given the emphasis it deserved. It was also expressed that undue emphasis had been given to work in the field of landmines.

87. The role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament-negotiating forum of the international community was stressed. It was stated that efforts should be made to reinvigorate the work of the Conference, which had shown little progress in recent years, and to adopt a programme of work.

88. Support was expressed for the activities of the United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme, which were considered instrumental in providing training for officials of national Governments, particularly those from developing countries. Such training had contributed to the enhancement of the expertise and skills needed for effective participation in international deliberations and negotiations on disarmament.

89. Support was also expressed for the activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa and the regional centres for peace and disarmament, particularly the Lomé and Lima centres. It was stated that efforts should be made to ensure that the regional centres were adequately funded in order to enable them to fully carry out their mandates. In that context, the adequacy of funding the activities of the regional centres largely through extrabudgetary resources was questioned.

90. The view was expressed that the workshops referred to in subprogramme 5, paragraphs 4.38 (a) (v) and (ix) should focus their efforts on the updating and harmonization of national legislation on light weapons in accordance with the

outcomes of the 2001 United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects.

91. The appropriateness of including the external factor "national institutions will be supportive of gender balance issues" (para. 4.37 (f)) in the section's subprogrammes was questioned, for such a factor seemed to be irrelevant to the achievement of the goals of the disarmament work programme. On the other hand, views were also expressed that such an external factor was relevant since it referred to the indicators of achievement and were not meant to be a condition for the achievement of the goals of the disarmament work programme.

Conclusions and recommendations

92. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 4.1

Replace the entire paragraph with the following:

"General and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control remains the ultimate goal of all efforts exerted in the field of disarmament. The main responsibilities for disarmament lie with Member States, and the United Nations, in accordance with its Charter, has a central role and primary responsibility in supporting Member States in this sphere. The Department for Disarmament Affairs, headed by an Under-Secretary-General, is responsible for the implementation of the programme".

Paragraph 4.2

Reformulate the text of the paragraph to read as follows:

"The mandate for the programme derives from the priorities established in General Assembly resolutions and decisions in the field of disarmament, including the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (resolution S-10/2). While weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, continue to be the primary concern, the Organization would also continue its work in the field of conventional disarmament".

Paragraph 4.4

In the first sentence, replace the phrase "as well as to expert groups on disarmament studies" with "as well as review conferences, other meetings of States parties to multilateral agreements on disarmament and related matters, and expert groups assisting the Secretary-General in undertaking disarmament studies".

Paragraph 4.4 bis

Insert a new paragraph to read as follows: "Training and advisory services will continue to be provided through the United Nations disarmament

fellowships, training and advisory services programme and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, for Member States, in particular developing countries, to enhance their expertise with a view to participating more effectively in international deliberating and negotiating forums. The Department will also assist Member States in increasing understanding among them of the relationship between disarmament and development".

Paragraph 4.6

Delete the words "and landmine issues".

Paragraph 4.14

In the second sentence, after the phrase "international disarmament agenda", delete the phrase "in order to make them conform to the new international political and security environments".

Replace the third and fourth sentences with the following:

> **"The Conference on Disarmament will be finalizing its work programme, which will include resuming negotiations on a number of disarmament issues and continuing the promotion of global disarmament, in accordance with its agenda".**

Table 4.7

Under Indicators of achievement, in paragraph (a), after the words "effectiveness of" add the words "the services provided by the Secretariat to facilitate".

Replace paragraph (c) with the following:

> **"An increase in the number of applicants for the United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme and wider representation of Member States in the programme and greater support for the disarmament fellowship programme from Member States".**

Table 4.9

Under Expected accomplishments, in paragraph (a), replace the text after the words "disarmament issues" with the following: "on matters related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, by Member States".

In paragraph (b), replace the words "including the issue of missiles" with the words "on specific issues related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons".

Under Indicators of achievement, paragraph (a) (i) should read: "A record of appreciation for assistance provided, including substantive and organizational support, for the implementation of agreements in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons. This would include sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference and ad hoc meetings".

Paragraph 4.25

In subparagraph (a) (iv), delete the words "and the panel of governmental experts on missiles (2 sessions, 40 meetings, 2000)".

In subparagraph (a) (v), after the words "2 sessions", add the words "40 meetings, 2002" within the parentheses.

93. In all instances where the words "weapons of mass destruction" appear, if it has not already been done, insert a comma after the word "destruction" and add the words "in particular nuclear weapons".

Section 5
Peacekeeping operations

94. At its 17th meeting, on 21 June 2001, the Committee considered section 5, Peacekeeping operations, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/56/6 (Sect. 5)).

95. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced section 5 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

96. Support was given to the activities of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. The important role of the Department in the maintenance of peace and security, one of the priorities of the Organization, was reaffirmed. The presentation of the programme narrative of the section was welcomed, which was in keeping with the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and with resolution 55/231 of 23 December 2000 on results-based budgeting. While appreciation was expressed for the simplicity of language of a number of expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, the view was also expressed that some of the terminology used in the expected accomplishments and indicators could be better formulated and better harmonized with the text of the medium-term plan. It was noted that some of the indicators of achievements focused more on the parties to conflict rather than what was being done by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

97. As regards the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievements under subprogramme 1, Operations, in particular the "reduction and/or cessation of hostilities in areas of conflict through the fulfilment of Security Council mandates where peacekeeping operations are deployed", the view was expressed that, while there was an expectation that those could be fulfilled, some of those accomplishments might be difficult to achieve.

98. The particular attention given to a number of important issues in the programme narrative was welcomed, such as the safety and security of peacekeepers in the field; the training of personnel; sound management of peacekeepers in the field; the continuous flow of information to and from Member States in all phases of operations; the integration of past and current practices into the institutional memory of the United Nations; the development and implementation of innovative strategies aimed at gender parity on a broad geographic basis in all aspects of peacekeeping operations; and on measures to be undertaken by the Department in providing for dialogue with troop-contributing countries and members of the

Security Council, particularly on the needs of troop-contributing countries that might be in a position to provide troops. On the other hand, given the importance attached to the safety and security of staff in the field, regret was expressed that it had not been included as one of the expected accomplishments in the programme narrative.

99. It was pointed out that since peacekeeping was one of the core functions of the Organization, the capacity of the Department to fulfil its mandated activities should be strengthened. The proposed establishment of a Director of the Europe and Latin American Division was welcomed, therefore, as well as the establishment of a Civilian Police Division and the enhancement of the Department's doctrine and development of best practices. It was emphasized, that in strengthening the capacity of the Department, due regard should be given to geographical balance. It was also emphasized that proper representation of troop-contributing countries in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat should be insured. It was noted that the proposals under the section were still subject to decisions to be taken in connection with the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation on the recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations.

100. It was noted that, although certain activities under the programme were of a permanent nature, those activities continued to be funded on a temporary basis from resources under the support account for peacekeeping operations.

101. Support was given to the two peacekeeping missions funded from the regular budget, the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization and the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan. The view was expressed that the resources proposed for those two missions took into account the efficient use of resources and allowed for the implementation of the programme of activities.

Conclusions and recommendations

102. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 5, Peacekeeping operations, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 5.3

Replace the first sentence with the entire text of paragraph 3.1 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

In the seventh sentence, replace the phrase "on a broad geographic basis" with "and on as wide a geographical basis as possible".

After the seventh sentence, add the following sentence:

"However, this will not affect the troop-contributing countries in taking their sovereign decisions on the composition of their units deployed to peacekeeping operations within the mission's specific guidelines, as agreed upon by troop-contributing countries".

Paragraph 5.8

At the end of the penultimate sentence, replace the phrase "peace operations" with "peacekeeping operations".

Paragraph 5.24

After the phrase "Security Council mandates", delete the phrase reading "and that other parties ... their role".

Paragraph 5.25

After the phrase "and provision of support to meetings with Member States", replace the phrase reading "other United Nations programmes ... non-governmental organizations" with "by other Organizations within the United Nations system, as well as with other regional organizations and actors, in accordance with legislative mandates".

Table 5.11

Under indicators of achievement (b), add two additional indicators, as follows:

"(i) Reduction in the duration of the liquidation process;

"(ii) Timeliness of the processing and setting of claims of troop-contributing countries by the Claims and Information Management Section (CMSS) under the Field Management and Support Services (FMSS)".

Paragraph 5.32

After the phrase "required military and civilian police components", add the phrase "that meet the relevant prerequisites of the peacekeeping missions", and delete the words "to peacekeeping missions".

Paragraph 5.33

In subparagraphs (b), (c) and (d), replace the phrase "peace operations" with the phrase "peacekeeping operation(s)".

103. The Committee took note of the Secretariat's assurance that the expected increase in extrabudgetary funding was not associated with a recourse to hiring gratis personnel.

104. The Committee recommended that, in implementing programme activities under this section, special attention should be given to enhancing the safety and security of peacekeepers in the field.

Section 6
Peaceful uses of outer space

105. At its 21st meeting, on 25 June 2001, the Committee considered section 6, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

106. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced section 6 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

107. Support was expressed for the programme on the peaceful uses of outer space. Delegations expressed the view that the programme was effective in its management and useful in improving the quality of daily life of people in poverty.

108. It was noted that space technology is important in bridging the gap between developed and developing countries by exposing developing countries to the most advanced technology available.

109. It was pointed out that the relationships among outputs, indicators of achievement and expected accomplishments were not clear. It was noted that, in some cases, the narrative did not fully reflect the language contained in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.

Conclusions and recommendations

110. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 6, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Table 6.3

Under *Expected accomplishments*, paragraph (c) should read:

"(c) Increased access and use of space technologies by developing countries in their efforts to promote economic, social and cultural development."

Under *Indicators of achievement*, paragraph (c) should read:

"(c) (i) An increase in the number of projects and activities carried out by developing countries to promote economic, social and cultural development through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, with access and use of space technologies."

Under *Indicators of achievement*, insert the following text as paragraph (c) (ii):

"An increase in and further enhancement of training opportunities for developing countries, including fellowships provided to individuals from developing countries to participate in workshops, expert meetings and training courses on various topics of space science and technology and its application." (A/55/6/Rev.1, para. 4.9 (e))

Section 8
Office of Legal Affairs

111. At its 26th and 27th meetings, on 28 June 2001, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 8, Legal affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

112. The Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, The Legal Counsel, introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

113. Support was expressed for the role and activities of the section. Acknowledgement was made in regard to the contribution of subprogrammes 3 and 5 in the areas of international trade law and preparations for the international criminal court, respectively. Support was also expressed for the work of the Preparatory Committee for the International Criminal Court.

114. The view was expressed that there should be greater harmony between the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement contained in the budget fascicle and those outlined in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. Particular reference was made, in that regard, to subprogrammes 1 and 2. Views were expressed and sought on the role and function of Legal Affairs in the context of the operations of the United Nations, in particular as it relates to providing legal services for legislative and intergovernmental bodies.

115. A view was expressed that the narrative part of the programme was not consistent with the medium-term plan, and that the programme did not refer to the resolutions that contain its mandate in all subprogrammes.

116. Furthermore, it was pointed out that some of the indicators of achievement were difficult to measure and that consideration should be given to expressing those indicators in more quantifiable terms.

117. The broad nature of some external factors were pointed out, particular reference being made to those presented in subprogramme 6.

118. The understanding was expressed that, after a period of time, the components of the results-based budget, including expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, would be reviewed and their success assessed.

119. Concern was expressed about the issuance of documents in all official languages and the simultaneous availability of those documents in all official languages on the web site.

Conclusions and recommendations

120. The Committee requested the Secretary-General to realign the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement of section 8, Legal affairs, in conformity with the medium-term plan and to submit the revised section to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

Section 9
Economic and social affairs

121. At its 22nd and 23rd meetings, on 26 June 2001, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

122. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

123. Support was expressed for the work programme envisaged under the section. Specific reference was made to the anticipated support for the Second World Assembly on Ageing and the World Summit on Sustainable Development. It was noted that no specific resource provision had been made for the International Conference on Financing for Development although it was also scheduled to be held in 2002. Appreciation was expressed for the contribution of the programme in assisting developing countries in their development efforts.

124. The view was expressed that, although most expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement were consistent with those approved for programme 7 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, some accomplishments and indicators required a closer alignment with those in the plan. It was considered that further efforts were necessary to develop operational measures for the indicators of achievement cited under the programme. In general, concern was expressed regarding the difficulty to measure "Satisfaction of Member States ..." and "contribution of ... subprogramme/advisory services etc.", which were cited as indicators of achievement throughout section 9. It was considered that some of the external factors also required improvement. The indicators of achievements under subprogramme 5, Statistics, were highlighted, as an area where the Department of Economic and Social Affairs had gained significant comparative advantage.

125. The view was expressed that the narratives for consultants and experts should have been more detailed so as to allow easy review.

126. The view was expressed that the level of resources proposed was not commensurate with the work programme to which high priority had been attached, nor was it commensurate with the level of growth proposed for other high priority programmes. It was further expressed that adequate budget resources should be provided for the strengthening of the subprogrammes, particularly for technical cooperation activities. Although the difficulty in projecting extrabudgetary resources was recognized, concern was expressed about the negative impact that the lower level of extrabudgetary resources projected for the biennium 2002-2003 would have on the programme of work. A view was expressed about the need to ensure that the increasing bilateralization trend reflected in voluntary contributions did not weaken the multilateral character of the Organization. It was also felt that the allocation of extrabudgetary resources should be subject to careful oversight in order to ensure that such resources do not distort the priorities set by Member States. Concern was expressed regarding the insufficiency of resources for combating poverty and the continuing decrease of the level of official development assistance.

127. The inclusion of the United Nations Forum on Forests under section 9 was welcomed. Deep concern was expressed regarding the lack of resources to be devoted to the activities of the United Nations Forum on Forests, disregarding Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35.

128. A view was expressed that the relevance and role of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development and the Committee for Development Policy should be examined.

129. It was stated that, although South-South cooperation was cited in paragraph 9.2 of the Overview, no individual South-South outputs were cited under the various subprogrammes in the section. It was explained that South-South cooperation was always an important consideration in designing and implementing relevant technical cooperation activities, carried out by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and that the organizational unit dealing with South-South cooperation was the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries in UNDP.

130. The lack of attention in that section to the preparation of the International Conference on Financing for Development was noted.

131. It was stated that reference to the work of the United Nations with respect to General Assembly resolutions 53/7, 54/215 and 55/205 on the World Solar Programme was excluded from the programme of work and that budget section.

Conclusions and recommendations

132. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Table 9.9

Under Expected accomplishments, add new paragraphs (e), (f) and (g) as follows:

"(e) Establishment of an expanded framework for information exchange and communication with Governments and civil society.

"(f) Increased efficiency and effectiveness of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality.

"(g) An increased number of ratifications of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol, increased compliance by States parties with reporting obligations under the Convention and improved coordination between the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in contributing to the development and strengthening of human rights mechanisms to ensure the enjoyment by women of their human rights".

Table 9.9

Under Indicators of achievement, add new paragraphs (e) and (f) as follows:

"(e) The number of ratifications of the Convention and its Optional Protocol, the number of States parties submitting their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on time

and the number of reports examined by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

"(f) The development of tools and methodologies and the promotion of good practices with respect to system-wide gender mainstreaming by the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, including enhancement of the capabilities of the regional economic commissions to work as focal points for inter-agency coordination on gender issues within the United Nations system".

Paragraph 9.62 (a) (iii) b

In Parliamentary documentation. Reports on, include reference to the report on "existing studies, information and documentation on abuse against older persons".

Table 9.13

Under Expected accomplishments, renumber existing paragraph (c) to (c) (i) and insert new paragraph (c) (ii) "improved coordination of the implementation of the World Solar Programme".

Under Indicators of achievement, paragraph (c), after the phrase "sustainable development", insert the phrase "including the World Solar Programme".

Paragraph 9.69 (a) (vi)

In the last sentence, after the word "development", add the words "including solar energy".

Table 9.21

Under Expected accomplishments, replace paragraph (e) with the following text: "improved access by Governments and international bodies to analytical tools, options and adequate methodologies regarding the linkages between political and economic issues and policies, such as economic sanctions, imposition of coercive economic measures, the relationship between disarmament and development and relevant aspects of post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction".

133. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly to reflect the activities of the United Nations Forum on Forest in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35 in the relevant subprogramme of section 9 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

134. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly consider the impact of the increased use of consultants in the implementation of this programme.

Section 10
Africa: New Agenda for Development

135. At its 26th meeting, on 28 June 2001, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 10, Africa: New Agenda for Development, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

136. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

137. Support was expressed for the programme Africa: New Agenda for Development, which is a priority for the medium-term plan 2002-2005. The importance of the programme for Africa was reiterated.

138. Full support was expressed for the increase in resources and the objectives proposed for the biennium. The view was also expressed that the strategy of the programme should be action-oriented and result in concrete measurable activities.

139. The view was expressed that expected accomplishments of subprogramme 1 should include increased cooperation not only between Africa and other developing countries, but also between Africa and developed countries. Including increased cooperation with developed countries would fully take into account the main objective of the programme, which is to mobilize the international community as a whole.

140. It was considered extremely important that all the vacant posts be filled without delay. It was recommended that the final evaluation of the UN-NADAF be precise, critical and exhaustive. UN-NADAF was a compact between Africa and the international community and its evaluation should show candidly and clearly what each member of the compact had done. The evaluation should further assess the impact of what had been done, and provide indications on the successor arrangements.

141. The view was expressed that the strategy under subprogramme 3 should be revised to include the production of special materials to promote the final evaluation of the UN-NADAF and highlight its achievements.

Conclusions and recommendations

142. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 10, Africa: New Agenda for Development, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following:

(a) Modifications to the narrative of section 10:

Subprogramme 1
Table 10.4

Under indicators of achievement (b), after "The contribution" add "and impact".

Under expected accomplishments, replace paragraph (b) by the following:

"Greater awareness and understanding of African development issues, including those related to post-conflict situations."

Under indicators of achievement, add after paragraph (d), the following five paragraphs:

"(e) An assessment of the quality and timeliness of reports submitted to intergovernmental policy-making and review bodies to facilitate deliberations on Africa.

"(f) The number and usefulness of briefing sessions on issues concerning African development.

"(g) The number and usefulness of South-South forums sponsored or co-sponsored.

"(h) The number of visits to the Africa web page.

"(i) The use of databases on the activities of non-governmental organizations and other non-governmental partners contributing to African development."

Subprogramme 2
Table 10.6

Under expected accomplishments, add the following two paragraphs:

"(d) Improved reporting on and dissemination of experiences in the implementation of programmes and initiatives on Africa.

"(e) Strengthened national economic management capacity as an integral component of peace-building and post-conflict resolution."

Under indicators of achievement, add the following paragraph and re-letter the other paragraphs:

"(a) Expression of satisfaction over the support provided to Member States in implementing the programme of action."

Under indicators of achievement, in new paragraphs (c) and (d) add "and impact" after "The number".

Under indicators of achievement, add the following two paragraphs after paragraph (d):

"(e) The number and impact of forums and expert meetings organized to access and monitor the rate of implementation of the action programme.

"(f) The number and impact of training activities organized and development personnel benefiting from them."

Subprogramme 3
Table 10.8

Replace the two indicators of achievement by:

"(a) Assessment by users of the quality and volume of information disseminated regionally and internationally through the print and electronic media outlets.

"(b) The timely and regular issuance of *Africa Recovery*.

"(c) The number and quality of informational materials prepared and media events organized in order to maintain the international spotlight on Africa."

(b) Immediate steps should be taken to fill the vacancies which negatively affect programme delivery.

(c) Activities envisaged in subprogramme 3 should be reinforced in view of the forthcoming final evaluation of UN-NADAF in the year 2002.

(d) The various reports related to the final evaluation of the UN-NADAF listed as outputs under subprogrammes 1 and 2 should, inter alia:

(i) Present an exhaustive assessment of all the activities carried out by all partners concerned in the various areas covered by the UN-NADAF;

(ii) Provide a critical analysis which would make it possible:

- **to identify successes, obstacles and failures;**
- **to highlight the lessons learned;**
- **to indicate the impact and implications of the activities on the development of Africa, in the light of the commitments, responsibilities and objectives initially set by UN-NADAF;**

(iii) Include concrete proposals on the successor arrangements to UN-NADAF. The proposals should include effective coordination measures at the international, regional, subregional and national levels.

Section 11A
Trade and development

143. At its 12th meeting, on 19 June 2001, the Committee considered section 11A, Trade and development, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

144. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

145. Strong support was expressed for the programme overall and for the activities of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). UNCTAD was particularly commended for the successful preparation of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. A view was

expressed that the Committee was not the appropriate body to commend UNCTAD for the preparation of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

146. Views were expressed that the fascicle for section 11A (A/56/6 (Sect. 11A)) needed to be reissued and brought in line with the outcome of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. It was also held that it would not be appropriate for the Committee to review subprogramme 5. Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, could prejudice the proposals that the Secretary-General had been requested to submit to the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, as per paragraph 116 of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in June 2001. Other views were expressed that there was no need to reissue the fascicle, and that the Committee should recommend the approval of section 11A since the agreed conclusions of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget of UNCTAD adopted on 12 June 2001 (as contained in E/AC.51/2001/10), in particular paragraphs 1 and 7, offered a suitable course of action.

147. Satisfaction was expressed with the results-based format of the budget document; however, views were also expressed that further improvement could be achieved. It was recommended that this programmatic framework be incorporated into the everyday work of UNCTAD. Nevertheless, some indicators, in particular in the research and analysis area, were considered to be vague, not time-sensitive, or otherwise difficult to measure. More information was required on how some of the indicators would be measured in practice. Some of the external factors were also seen as being too generic. The results-based budget format should also have been applied to executive direction and management and to programme support. The view was expressed that the annual evaluation undertaken by the substantive divisions of UNCTAD should serve as a role model for other departments of the United Nations Secretariat.

148. On the question of resources, it was felt that more resources should be dedicated to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 and that the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries should be strengthened. Clarification was sought on the allocation of resources between subprogrammes 1A and 1B in subprogramme 1, Globalization, interdependence and development. The link between activities undertaken under section 1B and the sectoral work, in particular technical assistance, needed to be spelled out clearly. The establishment of a unit for landlocked developing countries in the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries was noted with appreciation. Views were also expressed that it was premature to propose the strengthening of the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed Countries, or to establish a unit for landlocked developing countries in the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries, taking into account that the Secretary-General had been requested to prepare a report on the operationalization of the outcome of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries held at Brussels. Concern was expressed at the amount of resources proposed for

consultants and experts throughout the section. The need to ensure that pledged voluntary contributions were forthcoming was underlined.

149. The view was expressed that the programme should focus its activities on areas where it had a comparative advantage, rather than expand into every development-related topic. UNCTAD should continue to deepen its expertise in selected areas, rather than broaden them. Another view was expressed that the activities of UNCTAD were already focused and in coordination with other development-related agencies. The view was expressed that the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development duplicated activities in other areas of the Organization. It was suggested that it should be abolished and resources diverted to other activities. Support was also expressed for the valuable services provided by the Commission and the continuation of its work. It was noted that some of the proposed research activities on Africa should be more clearly coordinated with activities reflected under sections 10 and 16 of the proposed programme budget.

150. Other developments such as the increased use of videoconferencing and the falling vacancy rate were welcomed. The need to show the impact of modern technology on the activities of UNCTAD was underlined. Emphasis was placed on the strengthening of database and information management systems referred to in this section.

151. The creation of a Division of Management, which should enable rationalization and streamlining of administrative activities, was welcomed.

Conclusions and recommendations

152. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 11A, Trade and development, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modification:

Paragraph 11A.2

After the last sentence, insert the following sentence: "It is foreseen that the Trade and Development Board will mainstream the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 within the work programme of UNCTAD, as well as in the UNCTAD intergovernmental process. It is also foreseen that similar efforts will be undertaken by the governing bodies of all United Nations system organizations, as appropriate."

153. The Committee recommended that, when considering section 11A, the General Assembly also take into account the outcome of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held at Brussels, as and when endorsed by the Assembly.

Section 11B
International Trade Centre

154. At its 13th meeting, on 19 June 2001, the Committee considered section 11B, International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

155. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

156. The existing administrative arrangements with respect to the International Trade Centre were noted. Nevertheless, regret was expressed that as a consequence of those arrangements a detailed proposed programme budget would not be available until later in 2001.

Conclusions and recommendations

157. The Committee took note of the preliminary estimate to accommodate the International Trade Centre programme of activities during the biennium 2002-2003. It also took note of the fact that, under the existing administrative arrangements approved by the General Assembly, the detailed proposed programme budget of the International Trade Centre for the biennium 2002-2003 would be submitted directly to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

Section 12
Environment

158. At its 13th meeting, on 19 June 2001, the Committee considered section 12, Environment, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

159. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

160. Support was expressed for the programme of work envisaged under the section.

161. The view was expressed that more information was needed on the relationship between outputs and indicators of achievement and their consequent measurement. It was further noted that the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement did not reflect entirely those contained in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. It was suggested that a comparison of the outputs approved for the 2000-2001 biennium and those proposed for the 2002-2003 biennium and an analysis of the shifts in the outputs would be helpful.

162. The view was also expressed that the narrative under Executive direction and management should have included an indication of objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement, external factors and the related outputs.

163. It was observed that extrabudgetary resources represented 96.2 per cent of the total resources for the section, and concern was expressed at the effect that such dependency might have on the implementation of the priorities decided upon by intergovernmental organs.

164. Support was expressed for the increased resources proposed under the section. Support was expressed for the work of UNEP in environmental assessment and early warning as well as for UNEP publications, particularly the *Global Environment*

Outlook. It was stated that use of the UNEP web site and its consequent improvement should be encouraged. A view was expressed that appropriate resources should be dedicated to desertification and reforestation.

165. It was considered that the proposals relating to the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation should reflect the decisions of General Assembly resolution 55/121 of 8 December 2000. It was also observed that expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement were not provided for that Committee.

166. The view was expressed that the Malmö Declaration did not provide a mandate.

167. It was considered that the reference to global environmental governance needed to be justified by an indication of the relevant mandate.

Conclusions and recommendations

168. The Committee recommended that every effort be made to ensure stability and predictability in funding the activities of UNEP.

169. The Committee noted the reinforcement of the executive direction and management compared with the programme of work and recommended that the General Assembly review that question.

170. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 12, Environment, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Delete the phrase "global compact" from the narrative part of section 12.

Paragraph 12.21

In the second sentence, replace the words "collection, analysis and interpretation of data" with the words "collection and analysis of data".

In the third sentence, after the words "reporting arrangements" add the following words "invited it to submit its programme of work to the Assembly".

Paragraph 12.22

At the end of the last sentence, add the words "in consultation with scientists and experts from interested Member States".

Table 12.10

Insert a new expected accomplishment as follows: "(e) The implementation of a new strategic environmental law programme for the first decade of the millennium".

Insert a new indicator of achievement as follows: "(e) The adoption by the Governing Council of a new strategic environmental law programme".

Table 12.14

Insert a new expected accomplishment as follows: "(f) Adherence to the goals of the International Declaration on Cleaner Production".

Insert a new indicator of achievement as follows: "(f) The number of signatures to the International Declaration on Cleaner Production".

Section 13
Human settlements

171. At its 25th meeting, on 27 June 2001, the Committee considered section 13, Human settlements, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

172. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

173. Support was expressed for the activities undertaken by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat). Appreciation was expressed for the actions taken by the Centre to streamline its activities.

174. The high quality of the budget document for section 13 was commended. Although the objective of subprogramme 1, to improve the shelter conditions of the world's urban poor, was fully supported, the view was expressed that the concept of "secure tenure" under expected accomplishment (a) in table 13.7 should not be encouraged, as the adequacy of resources for its implementation was questionable. It was considered that the Centre should complete its work programme prior to engaging in other projects.

175. There was overall support for the proposed budget, although the proposal for the reclassification of three posts in the Professional category was questioned. It was noted that, in the context of the revitalization of the Centre, the upgrading sought to correct historical discrepancies whereby posts had stagnated at low levels while substantive responsibilities had increased. In that regard, it was pointed out that at its eighteenth session the Commission on Human Settlements had authorized the Executive Director to raise the budget ceiling, including posts, funded from voluntary contributions, as part of organizational adjustments in the revitalization effort.

176. It was noted that 90.1 per cent of the estimated resources that would be available to the programme during the biennium 2002-2003 would be from extrabudgetary resources and a question was raised on the criteria used in allocating such resources. In view of the significant dependency on extrabudgetary resources to implement the proposed work programme, concern was expressed about the negative impact that the lower level of extrabudgetary resources projected for the biennium 2002-2003 would have on the programme of work. It was queried whether firm commitments had been received for the level of extrabudgetary resources estimated and whether the level of resources proposed would be adequate to implement the programme of work. In that regard, it was stated that there was an apparent contradiction between the proposed increase in extrabudgetary posts and the related footnote to table 13.3 and the reduced level of extrabudgetary resources reflected in table 13.2. In reply, it was noted that the estimated level of extrabudgetary resources was conservative as it excluded the resources likely to be available in the biennium 2002-2003 but which could not currently be incorporated

in projections because the necessary intergovernmental approval had not yet been granted.

177. A question was asked on specific action the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements intended to take with respect to the Declaration on cities and other human settlements in the new millennium, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth special session, in particular the paragraph on removing obstacles to the realization of the rights of the peoples living under colonial and foreign occupation. It was explained that the Declaration was crucial to the work of Habitat, and that the Centre would develop a programme of action to implement it. It was also stressed that the Declaration was to be implemented by all the relevant organizations of the United Nations system.

Conclusions and recommendations

178. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 13, Human settlements, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Table 13.9

Under *Expected accomplishments*, replace the words "city authorities" with the words "local authorities".

Section 14
Crime prevention and criminal justice

179. At its 13th meeting, on 19 June 2001, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 14, Crime prevention and criminal justice, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

180. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

181. Support was expressed for the activities undertaken by the Centre for International Crime Prevention. The importance of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme was stressed.

182. Satisfaction was expressed that activities related to the elaboration of an international legal instrument on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives and of a United Nations convention against corruption were indicated as being subject to a decision of the General Assembly.

183. Support was expressed for the overall objectives of the Centre and for activities related to transnational organized crime. Great appreciation was expressed for the excellent work and guidance provided by the dedicated staff of the Centre, which had led to the adoption of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols. Questions were raised concerning preparatory work for the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in the light of the uncertainties as to when the Conference would be convened. It was stressed that follow-up work on the

Convention should be a priority area in the programme of work of the Centre. Staff of the Secretariat working in this area should be strengthened.

184. Strong support was expressed for the work of the Centre on three global programmes: transnational organized crime, trafficking in human beings, and corruption. A view was expressed that, considering its limited resources, the Centre must focus its efforts. Therefore, activities related to cybercrime issues and expanded work of the Terrorism Prevention Branch were not supported. Another view was expressed in support of the additional resources proposed for cybercrime issues and for the reform of criminal justice systems.

185. Views were also expressed that the programme of work did not reflect a balanced approach between combating international crime threats and promoting fair and efficient criminal justice systems. This was a particular concern as the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice had decided at its tenth session to adopt "Reform of the criminal justice system" as the theme for the eleventh session of the Commission. Satisfaction was expressed with the good progress achieved towards the elaboration of a convention against corruption, since corruption was an impediment to social and economic development.

186. A view was expressed that the text of the section gave excessive attention to activities related to transnational organized crime over activities on crime prevention and criminal justice, which were the primary mandates of the Programme. It was recalled that the Centre for International Crime Prevention had given assurances to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice that the programme of work would be revised in the future to take into account the resolutions of the Commission and other relevant bodies. In that sense, it was stressed that it was necessary to prepare all the reports requested by the Commission, inter alia, the reports on the campaign to eradicate the illicit traffic of protected species of wild flora and fauna, on the illicit access to genetic resources, on support to Governments requesting technical assistance to combat illicit funds transfers and the repatriation of such funds.

187. Questions were raised concerning the mandates for activities related to terrorism and for monitoring criteria to assess the implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air.

188. A view was expressed that there was no definition of terrorism. Queries were raised about the Programme's activities to combat terrorism in all its aspects, including terrorism by States.

189. It was observed that expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement had not been provided in the areas of economic and financial crime. Support was expressed for expected accomplishments related to gender mainstreaming, although the view was also expressed that the related indicator of achievement could be better defined.

190. Lack of elaboration on the synergy with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme was observed.

191. Concern was expressed regarding the adequacy of resources. Questions were raised concerning the use of extrabudgetary resources and support was expressed for the proposed 10.2 per cent increase in regular budget resources.

Conclusions and recommendations

192. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 14, Crime prevention and criminal justice, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Table 14.5

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with paragraph 12.7 (b) of programme 12 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005,[1] as follows:

> **"The expansion of global knowledge of and expertise to deal with crime problems such as those posed by transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons, economic and financial crime, including money-laundering, corruption, illicit manufacturing and trafficking in firearms and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems;"**

Replace indicator of achievement (b) with paragraph 12.8 (b) of programme 12 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005,[1] as follows:

> **"Awareness of best practices and information disseminated, research undertaken and new techniques developed and shared among Member States to respond to crime problems as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems;"**

In indicator of achievement (c) (i), replace the words "transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons, corruption and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations" with the words "crime problems";

In indicator of achievement (c) (ii), replace the words "transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons, corruption and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations" with the words "crime problem";

Paragraph 14.18 (a)

Replace the words "Readiness of Governments to ratify" with the words "Cooperation of Member States in ratifying";

Paragraph 14.18 (b)

Delete the words "including from sensitive government data sources".

Paragraph 14.19 (a)

Add a new subparagraph (vi), reading:

"(vi) Ad Hoc Committee for the negotiation of a legal instrument against corruption

> **a. Substantive servicing of meetings. Six sessions of two weeks' duration (120 meetings);**
>
> **b. Parliamentary documentation. Six reports to the Ad Hoc Committee, including, inter alia, annotated agenda with transmission**

of draft text, contributions and proposals by States; six reports on each session of the Ad Hoc Committee."

Paragraph 14.19 (a) (v)

The subparagraph should read:

"(v) Ad hoc expert groups (RB/XB): Four regional expert group meetings on technical issues of common regional concern on the ratification and/or implementation of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three protocols; one expert group meeting each on: the criminal misuse of information technologies; best practices to combat trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants by land, sea and air, with attention given to the gender dimensions; best practices in combating corruption, with attention given to the gender dimensions; hostage situations and rescue operations; recognizing early warning signals of terrorist escalation; and legal approaches to combating terrorism;"

Paragraph 14.19 (d) (ii)

Delete the subparagraph.

193. The Committee recommended the strengthening of the Secretariat of the Centre for International Crime Prevention, including the field offices of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, so as to accomplish the tasks related to crime prevention and criminal justice and transnational organized crime through, inter alia, the full implementation of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and of the Board of Auditors concerning the management and implementation of the Centre's programme.

Section 15
International drug control

194. At its 14th meeting, on 20 June 2001, the Committee considered section 15, International drug control, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

195. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

196. Full support for the Programme, a priority area of work, was expressed. The importance of the Programme and the targets set in the Political Declaration were stressed.

197. Appreciation was expressed for the rigorous work done through the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in combating drugs and for intergovernmental cooperation to combat trafficking. Views were expressed that efforts in the area of demand reduction and in the area of eliminating the production of coca and opium were commendable. Appreciation was also expressed for the Programme's gender perspective.

198. A view was expressed that increased inter-sessional meetings of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs would enhance the Commission's role. The need for periodic consultations between the Commission and the Board was also stressed.

199. Support was expressed for constructive steps as regards management reforms and evaluation. Full implementation of those reforms was expected. Reform through the evaluation of projects was welcomed. Views were expressed that the proposal to establish an Assistant Secretary-General post in section 1 to provide for a Deputy to the Director-General, who would undertake responsibility for activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice and to international drug control, should have been mentioned in section 15.

200. Views were expressed that specific targets and indicators of achievement should be formulated more precisely. It was noted that, among the expected accomplishments, there was no reference to enhanced coordination within the United Nations system under subprogramme 1, despite the observations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services in its recent triennial review of the Programme in that regard. Concerns were expressed regarding the fact that the availability of extrabudgetary resources had been reflected as an external factor which might affect the achievement of expected accomplishments. Another view was expressed that the availability of extrabudgetary resources should be highlighted, considering that such resources were generally earmarked, thus affecting the implementation of the work programme.

201. It was pointed out that the coordination efforts with the Centre for International Crime Prevention concerning money laundering had not been elaborated in the budget document. Clarification on the framework for the removal of unwanted information from the Internet and coordination efforts in that regard with the Centre and other entities was requested.

202. Support for activities to assist transit States, including enhanced international cooperation, was expressed. It was stated that international cooperation should be increased in order to pay greater attention to the specific needs of transit States. Alternative development measures to reduce the production of illicit crops were supported.

203. The view was expressed that greater commitment should be adopted towards the accomplishment of the priorities established by States during the forty-fourth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

Conclusions and recommendations

204. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 15, International drug control, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Table 15.7

Under Expected accomplishments, add the words

"(e) Improved coordination of drug-control-related activities throughout the United Nations system with UNDCP providing leadership;

"(f) Progress made towards the adoption and implementation of measures to strengthen national legislation and progress giving effect to the action plan against the illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursors; measures to eliminate or reduce significantly the illicit manufacture, marketing and trafficking of other psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, and the diversion of precursors; national legislation and programmes to counter money laundering; and measures to promote and strengthen judicial cooperation;"

Under Indicators of achievement, add the words

"(e) The completion of needs assessments for multilateral cooperation on drug control;

"(f) Measures taken to strengthen national legislation and to give effect to the action plan against the illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursors; to eliminate or reduce significantly the illicit manufacture, marketing and trafficking of other psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, and the diversion of precursors; national legislation and programmes to counter money laundering; and to promote and strengthen judicial cooperation."

Table 15.10

Under Indicators of achievement, *delete* in paragraph (c) the words "(conclusion of agreements and memoranda of understanding)".

Table 15.12

Under Expected accomplishments, in paragraph (a), between the words "meeting" and "goals" *insert* the words "by 2003 the".

Under Indicators of achievement, in paragraph (a), *add* "by 2003" after "society".

Paragraph (e)

The paragraph should read:

"Number of guides on prevention and treatment issues developed during seminars and workshops and expert group meetings, and actually in use by Member States, to determine what constitutes effective prevention among school-based youth, youth at risk and women, and the design of treatment responses based on needs assessment and evaluation results."

Table 15.14, Objective 2

Under Expected accomplishments, in paragraph (a) *add* "by 2003" between "to meet" and "the goals".

Paragraph 15.35 (a) (iv)

***Delete* the words "one ad hoc expert group meeting on international cooperation against drug trafficking at sea; and".**

205. The Committee recommended that the number of inter-sessional meetings of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs be increased and that informal inter-sessional meetings among UNDCP, donors and recipient countries be held. Those increases in activities would be undertaken on an as-available basis.

Section 16
Economic and social development in Africa

206. At its 17th and 18th meetings, on 21 and 22 June 2001, the Committee considered section 16, Economic and social development in Africa, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

207. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

208. The improvement in the presentation of the fascicle as well as in the narrative was noted.

209. The view was expressed that the narrative of section 16 as well as expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement differed in part from the text of programme 14 of the medium-term plan. While the emphasis in the medium-term plan was placed on the reduction of poverty, the overall objective in the fascicle was to help African countries to deepen economic and social reforms and accelerate and sustain development. It was also noted that the expected accomplishment on increased mobilization of financial resources for the development of Africa under subprogramme 2 of programme 14 of the medium-term plan was missing from the fascicle. The view was expressed that the long-term objective of reducing poverty by half by 2015 should be reflected in the fascicle. It was also considered that debt reduction should have received more emphasis in the programme of work of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

210. The view was expressed that the narrative of the section should have included references to the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the United Nations Special System-wide Initiative on Africa, and that more emphasis should have been placed on operational activities in order to provide advice to Member States to assist them in their development efforts.

211. The view was expressed that the real growth of 1.6 per cent was very small and that the Commission should be provided with more resources to match the ambitions indicated in the programme.

212. It was considered that, in future, it would be necessary to provide greater specificity in the wording of expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, particularly with respect to the impact and effectiveness of programme outputs. It was recalled that, in 1996, ECA had carried out an exercise of reprioritization of its programme of activity through 2001 and that, subsequently, the Commission had discontinued a number of outputs that had not had the desired impact. In that connection, continuous review of outputs and reallocation of resources to priority issues was encouraged.

213. Regret was expressed at the continuing high vacancy rate pertaining at ECA which would, should it continue unchecked, seriously hamper accomplishments and delay unnecessarily Africa's economic and social recovery.

Conclusions and recommendations

214. The Committee recommended that publications and meetings should be more action-oriented and focus on issues that have a concrete impact on the development of African countries.

215. The Committee also recommended that immediate steps should be taken to decrease substantially the persistently high vacancy rate at ECA, which negatively affects programme delivery.

216. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 16, Economic and social development in Africa, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 16 A.1

The last sentence of the paragraph should read:

"The main objective of development in Africa is the reduction of poverty, an objective that was reaffirmed in Copenhagen in 1995 at the World Summit for Social Development, which set a target of reducing poverty by half by 2015."

Table 16 A.9

Add the following under expected accomplishments:

"Increased mobilization of financial resources for the development of Africa."

Add the following two indicators of achievement:

"(iii) A substantial increase in financial flows to the countries of the region;

(iv) The number of countries that have adopted investment and trade liberalization policies, including the removal of physical and non-physical barriers."

Table 16 A.13

At the beginning of indicator of achievement (b), add the words "An increase in".

Table 16 A.15

Under expected accomplishments, add a new expected accomplishment (d), reading:

"Increased Internet connectivity of African countries."

At the end of indicator of achievement (b) add the words "Number of countries that, with the support of ECA, have improved their statistical systems, leading to the collection and dissemination of timely and reliable data".

Add a new indicator of achievement (d), reading:

"An increase in the number of African Internet hosts and countries with direct connections."

Table 16 A.17

Add the following two new expected accomplishments:

"(c) Increased, effective and harmonized utilization of transboundary water resources;

"(d) Substantial implementation of the Framework of Action adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport and Communications".

Add the following new indicator of achievement:

"(c) An increase in positive results of the implementation of the Framework of Action for transport and communications".

Section 17
Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

217. At its 18th meeting, on 22 June 2001, the Committee considered section 17, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

218. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

219. Support was expressed for the activities undertaken by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. It was considered that the resources proposed for the section were not commensurate with the needs of the Commission which served a region comprising two thirds of the world population, and included the highest number of people living in absolute poverty.

220. The view was expressed that the expected accomplishments should be refined and that a number of indicators of achievements should be formulated more precisely, in order for them to be more quantifiable. It was also felt that the resources devoted to the area of administration needed to be reduced further and redeployed to the programme of work.

221. Appreciation was expressed for the importance assigned to activities related to women and to gender mainstreaming, for the efforts of the secretariat of the Commission to streamline its staffing arrangements and for the decision of the Commission to reduce its publication programme by 22 per cent.

Conclusion and recommendation

222. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 17, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

Section 18
Economic development in Europe

223. At its 19th meeting, on 22 June 2001, the Committee considered section 18, Economic development in Europe, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

224. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

225. Support was expressed for the programme of work proposed in this section. It was considered that the programme of work was in line with the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6/Rev.1). Appreciation was expressed for the reforms carried out by ECE in recent years and for the reduction in the number of publications.

226. The work carried out by the Commission in favour of the countries with economies in transition was noted with appreciation. In that context, it was emphasized that some of the main elements of the strategy of ECE should be the further strengthening of the national capacity of the countries with economies in transition and outreach towards the business and non-governmental organizations communities in those countries.

Conclusion and recommendation

227. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 18, Economic development in Europe, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

Section 19
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

228. At its 19th meeting, on 22 June 2001, the Committee considered section 19, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

229. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

230. Support was expressed for the work and activities of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). It was observed that the programme of work was in line with the priorities and needs of the region, such as the reduction of poverty and accelerated economic development.

231. The view was expressed that, while most indicators of achievements were consistent with those approved for programme 17 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, some indicators required a closer alignment with those in the plan. It was considered that in time the indicators of achievement cited under the programme would be improved. In that connection it was stated that performance indicator (d) in table 19.19, "overall attendance goal of at least 40 per cent of women", was very good since it provided a well-defined target which could be measured. Regarding performance indicator (a) in table 19.7, the view was expressed that the scope of that indicator should be expanded and not constrained only to negotiations on a Free Trade Area of the Americas, since ECLAC activities should benefit all countries of the region. Concern was expressed about the implications in the wording of some of the external factors; it was felt that the expected accomplishments would be solely dependent on the actions of Member States of the region. In that regard it was considered that some of the external factors required improvement.

232. It was stated that ECLAC should be commended for the level of detail and apparent transparency of the outputs enumerated in the narrative of the section. Appreciation was expressed for the institutional reforms carried out by ECLAC.

233. It was considered that ECLAC should increase efforts to ensure that consultants and experts are recruited from a greater number of countries of the region.

234. The view was expressed that future budget resources should provide for the strengthening of subprogrammes 4 and 7. It was further indicated that since the 1990s, one of the goals of ECLAC had been to strengthen the areas of work covered by subprogramme 3, Macroeconomic policies and growth, and subprogramme 7, Planning of public administration. It was therefore considered that the technical expertise required under those subprogrammes should be reinforced. The achievements under subprogramme 10, Statistics and economic projections, an area in which ECLAC had developed significant comparative advantage, were highlighted.

235. Concern was expressed with regard to the negative impact that the lower level of extrabudgetary resources projected for the biennium 2002-2003 would have on the programme of work.

Conclusions and recommendations

236. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 19, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Table 19.7

In performance indicator (a), delete the phrase "in particular with respect to the ongoing negotiations on a Free Trade Area of the Americas".

Table 19.19

In expected accomplishment (b), delete the phrase "democratic governance".

Table 19.21

Expected accomplishment (b) should read:

> **"Increased technical capacity to incorporate an environmental dimension into the design of economic policies and the innovative use of economic instruments in environmental management, including a better understanding of the uneven effects of such policies on men and women."**

Section 20
Economic and social development in Western Asia

237. At its 22nd meeting, on 26 June 2001, the Committee considered section 20, Economic and social development in Western Asia, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

238. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

239. Support was expressed for the programme of work proposed in this section. It was considered that the programme narrative was clear and in line with the text of programme 18 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6/Rev.1). It was considered that while the objectives of the five subprogrammes in the budget fascicle corresponded to the objectives of the same subprogrammes in the medium-term plan, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement were at variance between the two documents. Satisfaction was expressed with the inclusion of gender-related expected accomplishments in four of five subprogrammes of section 20.

240. Concern was expressed regarding the limited resources available to this programme. The view was also expressed that given the limited resources available

to the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the Commission should streamline its programme of activities and focus on the areas where ESCWA had a real comparative advantage.

241. Satisfaction was expressed with the efforts made by ESCWA to reduce the vacancy rate. Concern was expressed about the low level of extrabudgetary resources projected to be available for 2002-2003.

242. The view was expressed that more ESCWA publications should be issued in Arabic so as to take into account the requirements of the end-users in the region.

Conclusions and recommendations

243. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 20, Economic and social development in Western Asia, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

244. The Committee recommended that the Secretary-General submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-sixth session, a report on the most appropriate ways to ensure that ESCWA documents and publications were issued in Arabic, which is most relevant to the requirements of the member States of the region, as well as in other working languages of ESCWA to fulfil the requirements of readers outside the region as appropriate.

Section 21
Regular programme of technical cooperation

245. At its 26th meeting, on 28 June 2001, the Committee considered section 21, Regular programme of technical cooperation, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

246. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

247. Support was expressed for the proposals under this section. It was emphasized that this section played an important role in supporting national development efforts of developing countries.

248. The view was expressed that this section should have also been presented in the results-based budgeting format and contained expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement. It was explained that application of results-based budgeting techniques was difficult as the exact nature and extent of activities to be financed by the section were not known in advance.

249. It was noted that this budget section has been traditionally kept at maintenance level, subject only to recosting, and that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2514 (XXIV) of 21 November 1969, budget estimates have been in the nature of targets of programme delivery in each of the sectors or major fields of activity for which resources have been previously appropriated by the General Assembly. A view was expressed that this budget section should not be recosted as its activities related to specific requests for services during a biennium.

250. Questions were asked about the number of actual requests for advisory services made by Governments for previous periods and the number projected for 2002-2003. Information was also sought concerning the results of evaluation of advisory projects from previous budget periods.

Conclusions and recommendations

251. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 21, Regular programme of technical cooperation, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

252. The Committee also recommended that the activities related to section 21, Regular programme of technical cooperation be presented in terms of objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, where possible.

Section 22
Human rights

253. At its 24th and 25th meetings, on 27 June 2001, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 22, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights introduced the section and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the section.

Discussion

254. Strong support was expressed for the High Commissioner and for the work carried out by her Office. Appreciation was expressed for the support provided for the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa. It was requested that enough resources be allocated in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 to the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa.

255. Views were expressed that, when viewed in the context of the overall budget, the proposed increase in resources for the section reflected the importance placed on it. A view was expressed that the proposed resources were not sufficient to fulfil all its mandates.

256. It was noted that there had been a steady increase in the resources for human rights, while the priority of economic development was not treated equally and development-related activities had been subject to streamlining and rationalization. It was also noted that more mechanisms created difficulties both through duplication and resource growth; there, the High Commissioner should take efficiency measures through streamlining and integrating various human rights machineries and publications.

257. Concerns were expressed about the increasing dependence on extrabudgetary contributions, which could jeopardize the principle of universality. Views were expressed that, since all basic mandates of the Centre and all human rights activities were core activities of the United Nations, the programme should be funded entirely by regular budget resources. A view was expressed that the information on extrabudgetary resources lacked transparency and should include pledges.

258. It was noted that important principles embodied in paragraphs 19.3 (d) and (e) of programme 19 of the medium-term plan had not been reflected in the overview of the programme budget fascicle. It was also noted that expected accomplishments and measurements of achievement in subprogramme 2 deviated from the medium-term plan and that, in subprogramme 3, they were completely different from those in the medium-term plan. Concern was expressed that the programme budget fascicle, which should be in accordance with the medium-term plan, had been prepared prior to the finalization and adoption of the medium-term plan by the General Assembly and the Secretariat had not corrected the fascicle accordingly.

259. Views were expressed that the expected accomplishments and measurements of achievement were not in line with the medium-term plan. Other views were expressed that the expected accomplishments and measurements of achievement were in line with the medium-term plan, were precise, and that section 22 was one of the fascicles which were specific whereas others were vague.

260. The absence of a reference to the establishment of common data banks of information, research and analysis to assist legislative bodies, monitoring committees and special procedures, as stated in Action 16 (b) of the report of the Secretary-General on renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform (A/51/950), was noted with concern.

261. A view was expressed that the Centre for Human Rights could support the creation of a body to assist young democracies in the area of human rights. Support was expressed for the integration of human rights into all the work of the United Nations.

262. A view was expressed that there was a disproportionate emphasis on the right to development, giving the impression that it was separate from other human rights. Support was expressed for the special attention given to the right to development.

263. The necessity of financing within the section the working group to prepare a Convention on Enforced Disappearances and the Special Rapporteur on indigenous human rights was stressed.

264. The following amendments were proposed to section 22, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the period 2002-2003:

Overview

Add paragraphs 19.3 (d) and (e) of the medium-term plan;

Paragraph 22.1

(i) Add "international" before "problems" in line 3;

(ii) Replace "assisting in the realization of all" with "in promoting and encouraging respect for" in line 4;

(iii) Replace "supported" with "endorsed" in line 8;

Paragraph 22.2

(i) Delete the phrase "to anticipate serious violations and react to them" in the second sentence in line 7;

(ii) Delete in line 9 the words "to combat discrimination, to promote better life chances for human beings through the implementation of human rights, including civil, political, social and cultural rights and the right to development";

Paragraph 22.3

Delete the whole paragraph;

Paragraph 22.3, 22.5 to 22.8

(i) Option 1. Replace with "the programme of work aims at the following: (a) a significant enhancement and ..., (b) Major strengthening ..., (c) The adoption and implementation..., (d) ... (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m), (n), (o), (p)";

(ii) Option 2. Divide the 16 items listed in the medium-term plan into the following seven groups:

(i) international cooperation, technical cooperation and provision of assistance ((a), (d), (k), (l) of 19.3 of the medium-term plan);

(ii) right to development and economic, social and cultural rights ((c) and (f));

(iii) the Office of the High Commissioner, organization and activities of the United Nations Secretariat ((b), (e), (i), (j));

(iv) treaty bodies and special procedures ((g) and (h));

(v) education and public information, provision of research and analysis to States ((o) and (p));

(vi) fight with racism and protection of minorities ((n));

(vii) integration of women and the girl child ((m));

Paragraph 22.4

(i) Delete the first sentence;

(ii) Delete the first two sentences;

(iii) Delete the last sentence;

Paragraph 22.5

Delete the phrase "such as minorities, indigenous populations, migrant workers, the disabled and others" in the second sentence after the phrase "protect vulnerable groups";

Paragraphs 22.5, 22.6, 22.7 and 22.8

Replace text of these paragraphs with "The programme of work aims at: and insert subparagraphs (a), (b), (c), ... (p)" of paragraph 19.3 of the medium-term plan;

Paragraph 22.8

Delete the phrase "including the development of guidelines on gender issues" in the first sentence, and delete the two sentences that follow;

Paragraph 22.10

Delete the whole paragraph;

Paragraph 22.26

Change "advisory" to "subsidiary" in the third sentence;

Paragraph 22.27

(i) Insert "once the Permanent Forum has been established and held its first annual session" between the words "that" and "it" in the first line;

(ii) Delete entire paragraph;

Paragraph 22.31

(i) Delete in the fifth line after the word "treaties" the words starting with "addresses" up to "recommendations" in the seventh line;

(ii) Delete after the word "developments" in the eighth line the words "formulates policy and develops operational programmes in the area of human rights";

(iii) Delete in the twelfth line the words "for the purpose of protecting and promoting human rights";

Table 22.7

(i) Replace the part on measurements of achievement with (a) to (f) of paragraph 19.8 of the medium-term plan;

(ii) Delete in line 2 of measurements of achievement (a) (ii) the words "related to the right to development";

(iii) Replace "contribute to the promotion and protection of the right to development" with "contribute to the fulfilment of the objectives of the subprogramme" under measurement of achievement (a) (iii), line 7;

(iv) Replace text of measurement of achievement (c) with:

"(c) (i) The extent to which the mandate given to the Secretariat contained in resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights had been fulfilled;

(ii) The holding of seminars and workshops organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, or in cooperation with the Office of the High

Commissioner, and the extent to which they contributed to the fulfilment of the objectives of the subprogramme;

(iii) An increased number of visitors to the web site of the Office of the High Commissioner;

(iv) The number of new publications by the Office of the High Commissioner as well as their distribution and the assessment by users of their quality and usefulness";

(v) Replace measurement of achievement (d) (iii) with "The holding of seminars and workshops on the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, or in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner";

(vi) Add a new measurement of achievement (d) (iv): "An increase in the number of visitors to the web site of the Office of the High Commissioner on the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance";

(vii) Add a new measurement of achievement (d) (v): "The number of new publications of the Office of the High Commissioner on the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance as well as their distribution and the assessment by users of their quality and usefulness";

(viii) Delete under measurement of achievement (e) (iii) line 4: "in order to advance the full realization of the right to development, in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development";

(ix) Add a new measurement of achievement (e) (iv): "The holding of seminars and workshops on the rights of women, children, persons belonging to minorities, migrant workers, indigenous people and persons with disabilities, organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, or in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner";

(x) Add a new measurement of achievement (e) (v): "An increased number of visitors to the web site of the Office of the High Commissioner on the rights of women, children, persons belonging to minorities, migrant workers, indigenous people and persons with disabilities";

(xi) Add a new measurement of achievement (e) (vi): "The number of new publications of the Office of the High Commissioner on the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance as well as their distribution and the assessment by users of their quality and usefulness";

(xii) Replace under Objective 2 in line 6 the word "recognition" with "promotion";

(xiii) (i) At the end of measurement of achievement (a) (i) add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (a))";

(ii) In measurement of achievement (a) (ii) delete the words "related to the right to development". At the end of the sentence add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e))";

(iii) In measurement of achievement (a) (iii) replace the words "the promotion and protection of the right to development" with the words "the fulfilment of the objectives of the subprogramme". At the end of the sentence add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e))";

(iv) At the end of measurement of achievement (a) (iv) add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (a))";

(v) Renumber measurement of achievement (a) (i) through (a) (iv) as (i) through (iv);

(xiv) (i) Add a new measurement of achievement (b) (ii): "the extent to which coordination has been strengthened between the departments and offices of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, providing compiled examples of concrete steps in that regard". At the end of the sentence add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (b))";

(ii) Add a new measurement of achievement (b) (iii): "the extent to which the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner contributed to strengthening the coordination for human rights across the United Nations system". At the end of the sentence add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (b))";

(iii) Renumber measurement of achievement (b) (i) through (b) (iii) as (v) through (vii);

(xv) (i) In measurement of achievement (c) replace the words "the right to development, in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development" with the words "all human rights";

(ii) Add a new measurement of achievement (c) (ii): "an increased number of visitors to the web site of the Office of the High Commissioner". At the end of the sentence add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (c) and (e))";

(iii) Add a new measurement of achievement (c) (iii): "the number of new publications of the Office of the High Commissioner as well as their distribution, and the assessment by users of their quality and usefulness". At the end of the sentence add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (c) and (e))";

(iv) Add a new measurement of achievement (c) (iv): "the extent to which the protection and promotion of all human rights have been included in the work programmes of the departments and offices of the United Nations, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations". At the end of the sentence add the words "(relevant to all expected accomplishments)";

(v) Renumber measurement of achievement (c) (i) through (c) (iv) as (viii) through (xi);

(xvi) (i) At the end of measurement of achievement (d) (i) add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (d))";

(ii) At the end of measurement of achievement (d) (ii) add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (d))";

(iii) At the end of measurement of achievement (d) (iii) add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (d))";

(iv) Renumber measurement of achievement (d) (i) through (d) (iii) as (xii) through (xiv);

(xvii) (i) In measurement of achievement (e) (iii) replace the words "the full realization of the right to development, in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development, with respect to" with the words "the fulfilment of";

(ii) Add a new measurement of achievement (e) (iv): "The holding of seminars and workshops organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, or in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, and the extent to which they contributed to the fulfilment of the rights of women, children, people belonging to minorities, migrant workers, indigenous peoples and people with disabilities";

(iii) At the end of each measurement of achievement (e) (i) through (e) (iv) add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (e))";

(iv) Renumber measurement of achievement (e) (i) through (e) (iv) as (xv) through (xviii);

Paragraph 22.35

(i) Delete subparagraph (a);

(ii) In subparagraph (b) replace "integrating human rights into their programmes and activities" with "the field of human rights";

Paragraph 22.36 (a) (iii) (a)

Add "the working group on a draft United Nations Convention on Enforced Disappearances";

Paragraph 22.36 (a) (iii) (b)

(i) Add "the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of indigenous peoples";

(ii) Add "Special Rapporteur on migrants, Special Rapporteur on all contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance";

Table 22.9

(i) Replace expected accomplishments and measurements of achievement with those under subprogramme 2 of programme 19 of the medium-term plan;

(ii) Replace the text of expected accomplishments and measurements of achievement respectively with (a), and (b) of paragraph 19.10 and (a) to (d) of paragraph 19.12 of the medium-term plan;

(iii) Delete (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) under expected accomplishments;

(iv) Replace measurement of achievement (a) (i) with "The quality and timeliness of services provided by the Office of the High Commissioner";

(v) Delete measurements of achievement (a) (iii) and (iv);

(vi) Delete measurements of achievement (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g);

(vii) Add a new measurement of achievement (a) (iii): "The number of reports prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, and the extent to which they were presented in a timely manner, in compliance with the six-week rule for the issuance of documentation, for consideration by organs dealing with human rights";

(viii) Add a new measurement of achievement (b) (ii): "The number of reports prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, and the extent to which they were presented in a timely manner, in compliance with the six-week rule for the issuance of documentation, for consideration by organs dealing with human rights";

(ix) (i) In expected accomplishment (a) after the words "treaty bodies," insert the words "inter alia,";

(ii) At the end of measurement of achievement (a) (i) add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (a))";

(iii) Add a new measurement of achievement (a) (ii): "quality and timeliness of services provided by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights". At the end of measurement of achievement (a) (ii) add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (a) and (b))";

(iv) At the end of measurement of achievement (a) (iii) add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (a))";

(v) At the end of measurement of achievement (a) (iv) add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (a))";

(vi) At the end of measurement of achievement (a) (v) add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (a))";

(vii) Renumber measurement of achievement (a) (i) through (a) (v) as (i) through (v);

(x) (i) In expected accomplishment (b), after the words "treaty bodies," insert the words "inter alia,";

(ii) At the end of measurement of achievement (b) add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishment (a))";

(iii) Renumber measurement of achievement (b) as (vi);

(iv) Renumber measurement of achievement (c) as (vii);

(v) At the end of measurement of achievement (d) add the words "(relevant to expected accomplishments (d) and (c))";

(vi) Renumber measurement of achievement (d) as (viii);

(vii) Renumber measurement of achievement (e) as (ix);

(viii) Renumber measurement of achievement (f) as (x);

(ix) Renumber measurement of achievement (g) (i) as (xi);

(x) Renumber measurement of achievement (g) (ii) as (xii);

Paragraph 22.39

(i) Delete external factors (a) and (c);

(ii) Delete external factor (a);

Paragraph 22.40 (c)

Delete "contribution to and participation in the development of guidelines of integrating human rights into the strategies and programmes of agencies and programmes of the United Nations system";

Table 22.11

(i) Replace expected accomplishments and measurements of achievement with those under subprogramme 3 of programme 19 of the medium-term plan;

(ii) Replace the parts of expected accomplishments and measurements of achievement respectively with (a) to (c) of paragraph 19.16 and (a) to (c) of paragraph 19.17 of the medium-term plan;

(iii) Replace in objective 1 expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c) with:

"(a) Provision of advisory services and technical and financial assistance, at the request of the State concerned and, where appropriate, the regional human rights organizations, with a view to supporting actions and programmes in the field of human rights;

(b) Enhanced awareness, knowledge and understanding of all human rights, including the right to development";

(iv) Add a new expected accomplishment under Objective 1: "Provision of advisory services and technical and financial assistance, at the request of the State concerned and, where appropriate, the regional human rights organizations, with a view to supporting actions and programmes in the field of human rights, in particular in the new or re-established democracies";

(v) (i) Add a new expected accomplishment (d) as follows: "Provision of advisory services and technical and financial assistance, at the request of the State concerned and, where appropriate, the regional human rights organizations, with a view to supporting actions and programmes in the field of human rights";

(ii) Add a new measurement of achievement (d) (i): "The number of requests from Member States and, where appropriate, from the regional human rights organizations, received and fulfilled by the Office of the High Commissioner for the provision of advisory services and technical and financial assistance, with a view to supporting actions and programmes in the field of human rights";

(iii) Add a new measurement of achievement (d) (ii): "The timeliness, significance and relevance of the advisory services and technical cooperation";

(iv) Renumber measurement of achievement (d) (i) through (ii) as (ix) through (x);

(vi) Replace in objective 1 measurement of achievement (a) (i) and (ii) with:

"(a) (i) The number of seminars, workshops and training courses held or supported by the Office of the High Commissioner; and the number of persons trained, participants in seminars and workshops and fellowships granted as well as data on their geographic distribution and the extent to which they contributed to the fulfilment of the objectives of the subprogramme;

(ii) The number of requests from Member States and, where appropriate, from the regional human rights organizations, received and fulfilled by the Office of the High Commissioner for the provision of advisory services and technical and financial assistance, with a view to supporting actions and programmes in the field of human rights;

(iii) The timeliness, significance and relevance of the advisory services and technical cooperation";

(vii) Replace measurements of achievement (b) (i), (ii) and (iii) under objective 1 with: "(b) The number of actions and programmes that have been taken or formulated to further enhance the promotion and protection of human rights at the national, regional or international level";

(viii) Replace measurement of achievement (c) (i), (ii) and (iii) under objective 1 with: "(c) The number of seminars, workshops and training courses held or supported by the Office of the High Commissioner; and the number of persons trained, participants in seminars and workshops and fellowships granted as well as data on their geographical distribution and the extent to which they contributed to the fulfilment of the objectives of the subprogramme";

(ix) Replace the expected accomplishment of objective 2, "Prompt and effective action by the human rights special mechanisms of the policy-making bodies and by the human rights field presences in response to immediate threats of human rights violations or human rights violations," with "Fulfilment of the mandates given to the Office of the High Commissioner in resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights to support human rights monitoring mechanisms, such as special rapporteurs and representatives and expert and working groups mandated by policy-making bodies";

(x) Replace measurements of achievement (i) and (ii) under objective 2 with: "The number of actions and measures taken by human rights monitoring mechanisms, such as special rapporteurs and representatives and expert and working groups mandated by policy-making bodies";

(xi) (i) Add a new expected accomplishment (b): "Fulfilment of the mandates given to the Office of the High Commissioner in resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights to support human rights monitoring mechanisms, such as special rapporteurs and representatives and expert and working groups mandated by policy-making bodies";

(ii) Add a new measurement of achievement (iii): "The satisfaction of special rapporteurs and representatives and experts and working groups mandated by policy-making bodies with the support and information provided by the Office of the High Commissioner";

(xii) Add under objective 3 "with respect to field activities," before "to ensure the efficiency of field missions and presences";

(xiii) Replace the text of expected accomplishment under objective 3 with "Improved efficiency of field missions and presences through the maintenance of contacts with Governments, appropriate sectors of the United Nations system, international and regional organizations and others";

(xiv) Replace measurements of achievement (i) and (ii) under objective 3 with "The number of training programmes and materials for human rights field staff developed as well as training in human rights for the appropriate components of other United Nations field operations conducted for ensuring the efficiency of field missions and presences";

(xv) (i) Renumber measurement of achievement (a) (i) and (a) (ii) as (i) and (ii);

(ii) Renumber measurement of achievement (b) (i) through (b) (iii) as (iii) through (v);

(iii) Renumber measurement of achievement (c) (i) through (c) (iii) as (vi) through (viii);

(xvi) (i) Add a new expected accomplishment (e): "Enhanced awareness, knowledge and understanding of all human rights, including the right to development";

(ii) Add a new measurement of achievement (e): "The number of seminars, workshops and training courses held or supported by the Office of the High Commissioner; and the number of persons trained, participants in seminars and workshops and fellowships granted as well as data on their geographical distribution and the extent to which they contributed to the fulfilment of the objectives of the subprogramme";

Paragraph 22.43

(i) Delete external factor (a);

(ii) Delete text of external factor (b) and replace with: "The number of grants provided to the relevant Funds in the field of human rights which can be utilized for advisory services and technical and financial assistance;

Paragraph 22.44 (c) (ii)

(i) Add "relevant" before "peacekeeping operations" in line 3;

(ii) Add "in accordance with the Security Council's resolutions and decisions" after "peacekeeping operations" in line 3.

265. The Committee noted the fact that the resources projected from the extrabudgetary sources totalled 150 per cent of the resources from the regular budget and felt that that was an area of concern, particularly given the importance of the section and the possibility of "agendas" being "donor-driven" in many cases.

266. The Committee recommended the deletion of the narrative in paragraphs 22.26 and 22.27.

267. The Committee recommended that, in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, resources be allocated to the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa in accordance with the recommendations contained in paragraph 70 (a), part II, of the Committee's report on its fortieth session, adopted by the General Assembly.

268. All the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement in section 22 should be replaced with those of the medium-term plan.

Conclusions and recommendations

269. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly carefully review section 22, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the period 2002-2003.

Section 23
Protection of and assistance to refugees

270. At its 27th and 28th meetings, on 28 June 2001, the Committee considered section 23, Protection of and assistance to refugees, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

271. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

272. Support was expressed for the activities undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in particular in relieving the impact of refugee influxes on host developing countries.

273. Satisfaction was expressed with efforts to highlight the particular needs of women and children and to enhance the emergency response capacity of UNHCR, as reflected in the programme of work. It was felt that greater attention should be given to legal and physical protection and that an increase in the number of protection officers was necessary. Emphasis was given to the need for permanent solutions to

the problems of refugees by strengthening and intensifying measures for repatriation and resettlement. The view was also expressed that, while recognizing the importance of repatriation and resettlement, mention should also be given to other durable solutions, including local integration.

274. With regard to operational cooperation, the view was expressed that memoranda of understanding between UNHCR and other United Nations organizations should be subject to intergovernmental review in order to ensure the credibility of such standby arrangements.

275. The view was expressed that some of the external factors listed in the budget document were within the responsibility of UNHCR management and were therefore largely internal rather than external in nature. In particular, it was pointed out that external factor 23.11 (a), on the training of UNHCR staff, should not be considered as an external factor. With regard to external factor 23.14 (c), the view was also expressed that the level of extrabudgetary funding available to UNHCR was not an external factor of the programme.

276. Appreciation was expressed for the High Commissioner's initiative in distinguishing between core and non-core activities of the Office; it was regretted however, that the initiative had resulted from a shortfall in resources.

277. Emphasis was placed on the need to have contingency plans, worked out in consultation with the Government concerned, to address internal displacement.

278. Concern was expressed about the proposed closure of some UNHCR offices and the negative effect that this could have on the situation of refugees who were under the oversight of those offices.

279. The view was expressed that the new arrangements for the grant contribution from the regular budget seemed appropriate and sensible. However, it was also noted that the increase of US$ 2 million in the regular budget contribution seemed unjustified given the overall budget cuts of the programme. Emphasis was placed on maintaining the real resource value of the grant over time and on preserving the ability of the High Commissioner to implement the programme.

Conclusions and recommendations

280. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 23, Protection of and assistance to refugees, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 23.2

After the first sentence, insert the following sentence, based on the last sentence of paragraph 21.1 of the medium-term plan for 2002-2005: "The pursuit of permanent solutions to the problems of refugees is at the heart of protection and the principal purpose of this section."

Paragraph 23.3

Under item (e), replace the phrase "in these activities, due consideration will be given to the interests both of Member States and of the United Nations" with the following text from the end of paragraph 21.5 (f) of the medium-term

plan for 2002-2005: "in this regard, due consideration should be given to the obligation of United Nations officials, in the conduct of their duties, to observe fully both the laws and regulations of Member States and their duties and responsibilities to the Organization."

Table 23.4

At the end of indicator of achievement (e), add the following phrase, based on paragraph 21.17 (d) of the medium-term plan: "; the number of refugees repatriated and resettled."

Paragraph 23.11

Delete the words "(a) UNHCR staff are trained as to the need for, and most effective design of, programme initiatives;" and re-letter the remaining sub-items accordingly.

Paragraph 23.14

Sub-item (c) should read: "(c) a sufficient level of extrabudgetary funding is raised to allow for funding of planned capacity-building projects."

Section 24
Palestine refugees

281. At its 28th meeting, on 28 June 2001, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 24, Palestine refugees, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

282. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

283. Strong support for UNRWA was expressed. The substantive progress in the management of the Programme was applauded.

284. Appreciation and praise were expressed for the laudable courage demonstrated by the staff of UNRWA in carrying out its humanitarian mandates often under very difficult conditions.

285. Views were expressed that section 24 contained one of the best formulations of expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement. It was felt that the formulation could be used as a model for other budget sections.

286. It was noted that 96.8 per cent of UNRWA resources were from extrabudgetary sources. A view was expressed that the ratio between regular budget and extrabudgetary resources was a gauge of the success of the programme. In view of increasing financial requirements and difficulties in raising voluntary contributions, a view was expressed that the donor base should be expanded to include the private sector. Appreciation was expressed for the donors and they were encouraged to continue contributing to the Agency. The success of UNRWA in the recent appeal for funds was noted with appreciation.

Conclusions and recommendations

287. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 24, Palestine refugees, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 24.14 (b)

Insert the word "some" between "by" and "host" in the first line.

Section 25
Humanitarian assistance

288. At its 28th meeting, on 28 June 2001, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 25, Humanitarian assistance, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

289. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced section 25 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

290. The importance of the programme and the high priority given to the programme in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 was stressed. Support was expressed for the activities of the section, particularly on activities related to natural disasters and complex emergencies. The critical coordination role played by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in the activities of the United Nations system was emphasized. In addition, support was expressed for the work of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee.

291. It was underlined that White Helmets worked in an efficient manner with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to give relief in a specific situation. It was stated that initiatives such as White Helmets should be encouraged and developed worldwide.

292. The view was expressed that the objectives of the section were clear in their delivery of humanitarian assistance and that they were well elaborated and coordinated with the medium-term plan. It was noted that the programme narratives had improved in comparison with the narratives of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001. While it was observed that, in general, the expected accomplishments had linkages to the medium-term plan, some expected accomplishments and indicators of achievements could be further harmonized with the text of the medium-term plan.

293. It was pointed out that while the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievements in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 emphasized the more timely delivery of humanitarian assistance, the more timely response to countries in or emerging from civil crisis, the more timely delivery of assistance to victims of natural disasters and provision of relief, logistics, funding and contingency planning, no reference to the phrase "more timely" was made in the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievements proposed by the Office. The view was expressed that further refinements to the indicators of achievement

could be made in order to ensure they could be effectively measurable. It was pointed out that the expected accomplishments should have included adequate coordination among the United Nations agencies and programmes for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel.

294. Concern was expressed about the absence of references to internally displaced persons in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. It was pointed out that internally displaced persons were not only the product of humanitarian crises, but also natural disasters and various economic situations. In implementing its programme of work on internally displaced persons, therefore, the Office should be guided by those distinctions.

295. It was emphasized that the roles of New York, Geneva and the field should be complementary. The implementation of emergency rules and procedures was welcomed. The view was expressed that it was important to enhance the capacity of the Office to respond to natural disasters. The view was also expressed that while there was a need for surge capacities, there was no need to reclassify posts at higher levels. It was pointed out that the professionalism of the staff of the Office increased each year.

296. Reference was made to General Assembly resolution 46/182 and to the linkage of the legislative mandate contained in that resolution to the role of the Secretary-General in responding to natural disasters and humanitarian emergencies. It was pointed out that a clear distinction should be made between the legislative mandate in respect of humanitarian assistance and the role of the Secretary-General as executive officer of the United Nations.

297. Concern was expressed regarding the percentage of extrabudgetary resources in the overall level of resources of the section, since shortfalls in voluntary contributions would have a negative effect in the implementation of the Office's programme of work. The view was expressed, however, that in some other sections, the percentage of extrabudgetary resources in the overall level of resources was higher than that of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

298. The view was expressed that donors, in making voluntary contributions should pre-allocate those resources as little as possible and allow OCHA to utilize those resources in the areas where the Office needed them most.

Conclusions and recommendations

299. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 25, Humanitarian assistance, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Table 25.6

Delete (b) under expected accomplishments.

Delete (b) under indicators of achievements.

Delete (c) under expected accomplishments.

Delete (c) under indicators of achievements.

Delete "Increased attention to and respect for an active and visible policy of" in (d) under expected accomplishments.

Paragraph 25.18

Paragraph (b) (iii) replace the words "human rights and international humanitarian law" with "international humanitarian law and human rights instruments".

Paragraph (b) (vi) should read "Paper requested by the Security Council on protection for humanitarian assistance to refugees and others in conflict situations (1)".

Paragraph (b) (vii) should read: "Study on the application of the guiding principles of humanitarian assistance to all populations in need, as contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/182".

At the end of paragraph (b) (viii), add the words "in strict conformity with the principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality and to ensure that they are not working at cross-purposes".

Paragraph (c) (iv) should read "Production of inter-agency training package on enhancing the provision of humanitarian assistance to all populations in need".

Add a new paragraph after (c) (iv), "(v) Collaboration with other agencies to support and to promote the efforts of Governments of affected countries upon their request to assist and to protect internally displaced persons".

Delete paragraph (c) (vi) and renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

Paragraph 25.27

Add the words "where appropriate" after the word "Framework".

Table 25.10

Expected accomplishment (a) should read "increased capacity of developing countries for preparedness in disaster prevention and mitigation".

Indicator of achievement (a) should read "increase in the number of developing countries having the technical capacity to deal with disaster prevention and mitigation".

Add a new expected accomplishment (b), which should read "increased participation by developing countries in disaster reduction-related training and seminars".

Add a new indicator of achievement (b), which should read "the number of experts from developing countries participating in training seminars on disaster prevention".

Renumber the existing expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement from (b) to (c).

Delete expected accomplishment (d), and renumber the existing indicators of achievement from (d) to (e).

Renumber the existing expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement from (c) to (d).

Add a new expected accomplishment:

"(e) a better and more effective coordination in the mobilization of international support to contribute in the preventive management and rehabilitation related to natural disasters".

Paragraph 25.30 (c) (i)

Add a new item "n. Update inventory of the resources available to help deal with natural disasters".

Table 25.12

Delete (a) under expected accomplishments.

Delete (a) under indicators of achievement.

Renumber expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement from (b) to (a) and from (c) to (b).

Add new (c) expected accomplishment as follows:

"Increased capacity of developing countries to deal with disaster relief."

Add new (c) indicator of achievement as follows:

"Increased participation in training seminars on disaster management, improved field and regional cooperation in disaster management and increased donor response to inter-agency appeals"

Under expected accomplishments (b) and (d), after the words "environmental disasters", add the words, "as well as technological accidents"

Table 25.14

Under expected accomplishment (b), after the words "United Nations", delete the remainder of the paragraph.

Section 26
Public information

300. At its 28th and 29th meetings, on 28 and 29 June 2001, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 26, Public information, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

301. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced section 26 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

302. Support was expressed for the activities carried out by Department of Public Information. The role of the Department in increasing the awareness and understanding of the work and purposes of the United Nations among peoples of the world remains important for successful implementation of the themes and issues of the United Nations.

303. Satisfaction was expressed with the utilization by the Department of Public Information of digital technology, computerization and the Internet. It was further expressed that while the use of electronic media was increasing, the more traditional means for the dissemination of information should continue to be used in view of the technological gap between Member States. The view was also expressed that radio remains one of the most cost effective and far-reaching traditional media available for the promotion of the activities of the United Nations around the world.

304. Noting that the implementation of the pilot project on the development of an international radio broadcasting capacity for the United Nations had been successfully carried out, the view was expressed that the transition to permanent implementation of the project to more radio stations around the world should be supported.

305. Concern was expressed regarding the unequal treatment of the six official languages on the United Nations web site, particularly in Chinese, Russian and Arabic. A similar view was expressed on United Nations publications, press releases and Library services. The need for equal treatment of all six official languages was emphasized. It was pointed out that the use of non-official languages in the United Nations Radio must be strengthened in order to reach the largest audience worldwide. In that regard, it was pointed out that any activities dealing with non-official languages should be funded through extrabudgetary resources.

306. Views were expressed that the proposed outputs were too numerous and similar in nature, particularly those in subprogrammes 1 and 2. It was also noted that outputs tended to remain unchanged over the years. Concerns were expressed regarding the non-availability of information on the target audiences of various outputs produced by the Department, their level of satisfaction, and the usefulness and impacts of the outputs. Views were also expressed regarding the prioritization and streamlining of the Department's activities and services. In that regard, the importance of self-evaluation was also noted, especially utilization of the Integrated Monitoring and Documentation Information System to evaluate the Department's outputs and activities for relevance and effectiveness.

307. Concerns were expressed regarding the level of integration of public information services and activities among New York, Geneva and Vienna, and the level of coordination with other entities in the United Nations system, both at Headquarters and in the field, in order to avoid duplication of activities and services and increase the efficiency of public information activities.

308. Views were expressed that while the United Nations information centres provided effective and localized information services in the field, the cost of those services was high. Suggestions were made to review and rationalize the existing information centres to see if cost-saving measures could be adopted by terminating some centres located in developed countries, relocating some centres to United

Nations Houses, and adopting improved coordination strategies, including with other United Nations system offices.

309. Suggestions were made that the Department of Public Information prepare a report on the cost-savings to the information centres and to the Department as a whole resulting from the on-line availability of documents and publications.

310. Views were expressed that the Secretary-General should examine alternative ways for the Department of Public Information to carry out its mandates and responsibilities more efficiently and effectively, in particular in the light of available technology and changing needs, and report thereon at the first part of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

Conclusions and recommendations

311. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 26, Public information, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

312. The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to report on the impact of the "United Nations Houses" initiative on the operations, budget and staff of the information centres, taking into account the views of hosting countries.

313. The Committee further recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to report on the impact of the depository libraries as well as the upgrading of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library's integrated management system on programme delivery.

314. The Committee further recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the simultaneous availability of parliamentary documentation in electronic form in the six official languages on the United Nations web site.

315. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly, during its consideration of section 26 of the proposed programme budget, that it pay special attention to the programme aspects of developing and enhancing the United Nations web site in all official languages of the Organization, owing to the goal of achieving full parity among the United Nations official languages on the United Nations web site.

Section 27
Management and central support services

316. At its 21st meeting, on 25 June 2001, the Committee considered section 27, Management and central support services, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/56/6 (sect. 27 A-G)).

317. The representatives of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

318. General support was expressed for the proposed programme of work of the Department of Management for the biennium 2002-2003. Views were expressed that the Department had made a substantial contribution towards the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 52/12 A and B of 12 November and 19 December 1997 respectively, both entitled "Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform", by introducing new approaches to the management of the Secretariat in the area of common support services.

319. Views were expressed that the presentation of the budget fascicles in the results-based budgeting format was uneven in some parts of the section and required further improvement. Concern was expressed that some expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement included in the medium-term plan were not fully reflected in the programme narrative. Views were also expressed that some expected accomplishments were too broad and general and that the contents of some indicators of achievement required further refinement. A need was expressed for the development of common benchmarks and standards for comparable services to ensure a consistent approach across the section to the use of indicators. A view was also expressed that a zero-growth budgeting approach had imposed some limitations in the allocation of sufficient resources to the priority areas within common support services, and that other alternatives, such as the concept of zero-based budgeting, could be explored.

320. Measures proposed to address the priority issues within the Department of Management, such as in the area of administration of justice, were noted. At the same time, it was indicated that retaining the administration of justice activity in the Department might compromise the independence of the judicial process as it is described in General Assembly resolution 55/258 of 14 June 2001 on human resources management. Views were also expressed that the division of the administration of justice between different organizational units of the Department might slow down the process and weaken the implementation of judicial decisions.

321. With regard to section 27A, Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management, a view was expressed that the absence of workload indicators under that section would make it difficult to monitor the programme delivery, evaluate the results achieved and establish the mechanism of accountability of the sectoral and line managers.

322. With regard to section 27B, Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts, views were expressed that the financial and budgetary planning, execution and reporting of the peacekeeping operations was a core function of the Secretariat which should be financed from the regular budget rather than from the peacekeeping support account.

323. With regard to section 27C, Office of Human Resources Management, views were expressed that the programme narrative of the section should be revised to reflect fully the provisions of General Assembly resolution 55/258 on human resources management. Emphasis was placed upon the priority implementation by the Office of Human Resources Management of the measures for strengthening the specific areas of human resources management set out in the resolution. Concern was expressed that the programme narrative did not sufficiently indicate the measures by the Office of Human Resources Management for establishing a clear

linkage between increased responsibilities delegated to the programme managers and their accountability for decisions taken. A view was expressed that the monitoring of programme implementation would require the introduction of explicit and effective measurement tools, including feedback from staff, into the construction of indicators of achievement. A view was also expressed that the presentation of the programme tended to lean towards elaboration on the conceptual formulation of the reform rather than identification of a specific strategy. The importance of staff training for improved functioning of the Organization was emphasized. A view was expressed that management of the central training programme should rely more on coordination and cooperation with other organizations of the United Nations system with a view to employing the best practices and experience of the system.

324. With regard to section 27D, Office of Central Support Services, emphasis was placed upon the need for short-term and medium-term strategies for information technology, including plans on videoconferencing and other services, in addition to the long-term strategy proposed by the Secretary-General. Measures by the Office of Central Support Services for the introduction of common services arrangements on a reimbursable basis were noted. Views were expressed that the Office of Central Support Services should take specific steps for expanding such arrangements to other common support services currently in operation. Completion of the development of the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) was noted. Views were expressed that the time had come to capitalize on technological advantages offered by the system with a view to streamlining administrative organizational structures.

Conclusions and recommendations

325. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly review the question of the ombudsman during its consideration of the proposed programme budget for 2002-2003 regarding the location and the level of the post.

326. The Committee also recommended to the General Assembly that it request the Secretary-General to reformulate the programme narrative of section 27C, Office of Human Resources Management, of the proposed programme budget for 2002-2003 in accordance with Assembly resolution 55/258 of 14 June 2001 and submit it for consideration by the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

327. The Committee further recommended that the activities related to section 27, Management and central support services, should be presented in terms of objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, where possible.

328. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it approve the programme narrative of sections 27B, 27D, 27E, 27F and 27G, Management and central support services, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

Section 28
Internal oversight

329. At its 29th meeting, on 29 June 2001, the Committee considered section 28, Internal oversight, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

330. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced section 28 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

331. Support was expressed for the activities undertaken by the Office of Internal Oversight Services. Satisfaction was also expressed that a strategic review had been undertaken.

332. It was pointed out that the proposed programme budget fully covered the mandate of the Office and reflected the provisions of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. The indicators of achievements under subprogramme 3, Monitoring and inspection, were in particular commended.

333. It was recalled that the evaluation function was intended to assist programme managers in conducting self-evaluations. It was asked when the revised evaluation manual would be issued. A question was also raised on how to improve the timing of consideration of evaluation reports by the intergovernmental bodies in order to eliminate the current lack of efficiency resulting from the delays between the issuance of evaluation reports and their reviews by intergovernmental bodies.

334. Concern was expressed at the steady increase in resources for the Office of Internal Oversight since its inception. It was also pointed out that the level of extrabudgetary resources had significantly increased since the biennium 1998-1999, and questions were raised concerning the sources of these resources. Concern was expressed at the increasing recourse to extrabudgetary funds. The establishment of a cost reimbursement mechanism with the funds and programmes was welcomed and it was expected that there would be reporting on its functioning in the future.

335. The Committee welcomed the coordination with external oversight bodies as a very positive element. However, it was pointed out that improvements to further harmonize the work of the different oversight bodies were still required in order to avoid duplication in their work.

336. Questions were raised concerning the role and involvement of the Office in information technology matters at the United Nations Secretariat.

337. It was pointed out that, in subprogramme 1 (Central evaluation), the indicator of achievement (b) in table 28.6 relative to better coordination with external oversight bodies should be modified. It was observed that the number of meetings does not necessarily reflect better coordination and that a more adequate indicator of achievement would be the number of joint projects and/or the number of agreements to undertake joint and/or complementary audits.

338. Regarding subprogrammes 1, 2 (Management consulting) and 3, questions were raised concerning the apportionment of resources among the three functions in the newly created Monitoring, Evaluation and Consulting Division.

339. In subprogramme 4 (Investigations), it was observed that new posts were requested to cope with the increased workload in investigation cases. It was, however, pointed out that an increase in posts does not necessarily lead to enhanced effectiveness. Additional questions were raised as to whether the benchmark of 30 new cases by investigators was a realistic one and whether the new posts would provide for enough resources to cope with the increasing workload. The view was also expressed that other means to improve work efficiency should be explored.

340. Finally, questions were raised concerning the removal of the Executive Office from the executive direction and management component into a separate programme support component.

Conclusions and recommendations

341. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 28, Internal oversight, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Table 28.6

Under objective 1, replace indicator of achievement (b) with "The number of joint meetings, agreements and assignments with external oversight bodies".

Table 28.8

Merge the indicators of achievement (b) (i) and (b) (ii) to read "(b) Clear delegation of authority and the existence and effective use of mechanisms to ensure accountability at all levels of the Organization".

Replace the indicator of achievement (d) with "The number of joint meetings, agreements and assignments with external oversight bodies".

Section 29
Jointly financed administrative activities

342. At its 21st meeting, on 25 June 2001, the Committee considered section 29, Jointly financed administrative activities, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/56/6 (Sect. 29)).

343. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

344. It was noted that the activities proposed under that budget section was not programmed in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. It was further noted that the results-based budgeting approach had therefore not been used in developing that section, particularly with respect to the programme narratives for the International Civil Service Commission and the Joint Inspection Unit. A view was expressed that, although the jointly financed administrative activities were not programmed in the medium-term plan, efforts should have been made to develop the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement that would be suitable for

monitoring and evaluation of the activities of the International Civil Service Commission and the Joint Inspection Unit. Other views were expressed that, in the absence of the conceptual classification of the activities of ICSC and JIU, a mechanical identification of the indicators could be of limited utility.

345. A view was expressed that, in accordance with its Statute, the Joint Inspection Unit should continue to make efforts to utilize other operational approaches and tools that would enable it to provide a faster response to the issues and problems that fell within the Unit's competence.

346. The efforts to streamline the subsidiary machinery of the Administrative Committee on Coordination were noted. It was pointed out, in that context, that the narrative did not provide sufficient information to allow the Committee to identify clearly the differences and potential complementarities between the two newly established high-level committees, namely the High-level Committee on Management and the High-level Committee on Programmes, nor did it allow an assessment of the advantages of the restructuring of the Administrative Committee on Coordination.

Conclusions and recommendations

347. The Committee took note of the narrative of section 29, Jointly financed administrative activities, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

348. The Committee recommended that the activities related to section 29, Jointly financed administrative activities, be presented in terms of objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, where possible.

Section 33
Development Account

349. At its 23rd meeting, on 26 June 2001, the Committee considered section 33, Development Account, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

350. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

351. The view was expressed that the administrative arrangements and modalities of operation of the Development Account were too vague.

352. The basis for the provision of funds under this budget section at the same level as in the past two biennia was questioned. It was recalled that the resources to be proposed in this section were to be generated from efficiency savings and productivity gains. It was noted, however, that no mention of such savings was made in the narrative of the fascicle.

353. It was explained that the basis for the initial 1998-1999 appropriation of $13,065,000 under the Development Account was the efficiency savings realized in the biennium 1996-1997 and that these had been reflected in the second performance report for the biennium 1996-1997. In establishing the Development Account, the

General Assembly had decided that the amount approved for one biennium would constitute the base for the following biennium, and that this base would be increased by the amounts of savings generated by efficiency measures and productivity gains achieved during the previous biennium. These savings would be reported biennially by the Secretariat in the context of the second budget performance report, and the General Assembly would decide on the amounts of savings which would be provided for the Development Account. It was indicated that no new additional savings were identified in the context of the second performance report for the biennium 1998-1999 and that it was not possible, at this stage, to project for the biennium 2000-2001. This was the reason why the same amount as in the past two biennia was proposed under the section.

Conclusions and recommendations

354. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 33, Development Account, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

355. The Committee recommended that, when considering section 33, the General Assembly also take into account the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of projects financed from the Development Account (A/55/913).

B. Evaluation

1. In-depth evaluation of sustainable development

356. At its 2nd and 4th meetings, on 11 and 12 June 2001, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of sustainable development (E/AC.51/2001/2).

357. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report. Representatives of the Secretary-General responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

358. The Committee considered that the evaluation report provides an understanding of the achievements as well as the difficulties met in carrying out the United Nations sustainable development agenda.

359. The view was expressed that, since 1992, when Agenda 21 was adopted, the United Nations has taken important steps to ensure an effective follow-up. However, it was stated that the lack of common understanding of the concept of sustainable development is a matter that requires inter-agency attention, as recommended in the evaluation report's recommendations 2 (a) and 2 (b). Regarding recommendation 2 (a) and the recommended summaries of main policy aspects of priority issues, the view was expressed that poverty and consumption and production patterns should be among the major issues for discussion rather than the sole basis for discussion, and that the summaries should serve as a starting point for discussions.

360. It was stressed that the preparation of national reports is a burden for less developed countries. The question was raised of what benefits are derived from the preparation of these reports and what follow-up is carried out. Strong support was expressed for the proposals to bring forth key information in time for due consideration by intergovernmental bodies, while reducing their reporting burdens, as presented in recommendation 3.

361. The Committee stressed the need to ensure that regional, subregional and national perspectives are taken into account since each region has its own characteristics. It was stated that sustainable efforts in each region will reinforce achievements at the global level. It was considered that the role of the regional commissions needs to be expanded. The view was expressed that the Department of Economic and Social Affairs needs to consult more widely with all relevant actors and build on existing guidance in taking forward national strategies. It was recommended that national monitoring of nationally owned strategies be encouraged.

362. In respect of the inter-agency Task Force on Sustainable Development Strategies, coordinated by UNDP, a question was raised on the progress of the work of the Task Force. The view was expressed that the Commission on Sustainable Development indicators should be used as a tool by national Governments to assess their own progress on sustainable development, rather than as a cross-cutting international effort to compare one country to another.

363. The view was expressed that it is essential to ensure a convergence between different country-level frameworks, especially in trying to ensure that poverty reduction strategies become genuinely sustainable strategies. In particular, it was considered that the recently agreed OECD Development Assistance Committee guidance entitled "Strategies for sustainable development: practical guidance for development cooperation" provides a good basis for work.

364. Concerns were expressed about the difficulty of funding technical assistance implemented by the Division for Sustainable Development. Regarding the serious issue of water resources, a question was raised on the funding available for comprehensive assessments on which strategic water management plans can be based. It was suggested that the Division for Sustainable Development conduct a strategic review of its technical assistance activities so as to focus on areas of particular need and on where assistance can make a unique contribution.

365. The view was expressed that the evaluation focused too narrowly on the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, in particular that it would have been useful to assess the influence of coordination by the Division on the implementation of United Nations programmes. A number of thematic aspects could have been developed, such as poverty alleviation or progress made under the different conventions related to sustainable development.

Conclusions and recommendations

366. The Committee recommended approval of the recommendations of the in-depth evaluation.

367. The Committee recommended that the Department of Economic and Social Affairs consult more widely with all relevant organs and build on existing guidance in taking forward national strategies.

368. The Committee emphasized that national monitoring of nationally owned strategies should be encouraged.

2. In-depth evaluation of the population programme

369. At its 2nd and 4th meetings, on 11 and 12 June 2001, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of the population programme (E/AC.51/2001/3).

370. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report. Representatives of the Secretary-General responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

371. The view was expressed that the evaluation report provides a good and integrated account of United Nations population activities.

372. The Population Division was commended for the high quality of its reports, particularly its work on population ageing and the recent report on replacement migration, and the success of the population information network, POPIN. The view was also expressed that the reports of the Population Division, such as the report on replacement migration, are weak, and that the timeliness of some of its publications should be improved. The Division should make more use of reliable country data and assist countries in strengthening systems for routine data collection, issues too wide a range of reports and should focus more on poverty and emerging policy issues and the data needs of developing countries. The view was expressed that due to financial constraints the regional commissions are not in a position to carry forward their work and their outputs are of variable quality.

373. The use of the Internet for the dissemination of information on population should not affect the use of traditional methods of distribution of documents. The same should apply to the regional commissions concerning the distribution of publications, and this was highlighted in recommendation 3.

374. Concern was expressed over the decrease in resources devoted to the programme, especially in the regional commissions. An inquiry was made on whether ESCWA had been given the necessary resources to post information on the Internet, as highlighted in recommendation 4 (c). The view was also expressed that the evaluation reports should not make recommendations regarding budgetary and financial requirements but rather determine the necessity of a particular activity. The importance of financing the programme from the regular budget and not from extrabudgetary resources was reiterated since the use of the latter could put the programme in financial difficulties and weaken its implementation capability, and this was highlighted in recommendation 10.

Conclusions and recommendations

375. The Committee recommended the approval of the recommendations contained in the in-depth evaluation of the population programme, and that the Population Division improve its work in the following areas:

(a) The use of reliable country data;

(b) Helping countries to strengthen systems of routine data collection;

(c) Inclusion of a poverty focus within some of its analysis;

(d) Inclusion of the important dimension of the environment in its research;

(e) Coordination of efforts in maintaining the two web sites (POPIN and the Division web site) to reduce any duplication;

(f) Dissemination of information through the Internet to ensure that no information is available solely through sales publications.

3. Triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

376. At its 2nd, 3rd and 4th meetings, on 11 and 12 June 2001, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its thirty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (E/AC.51/2001/4).

377. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report. Representatives of the Secretary-General responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

378. The Committee expressed appreciation for the significant progress made through the joint efforts of UNDCP and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the implementation of a number of the Committee's recommendations made three years ago. Support to the International Narcotics Control Board and UNDCP as important mechanisms against the world drug problem was reaffirmed. It was stressed that the report could be a useful tool for the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in its implementation of the resolution on strengthening UNDCP and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body.

379. It was observed that UNDCP needed to implement more fully CPC recommendations in a number of areas. Dissatisfaction was expressed with aspects of the drug control programme, which, it was felt, the Office of Internal Oversight Services should keep under review. It was stressed that the management of UNDCP is in need of attention. It was noted that 60 per cent of UNDCP funds for the implementation of operational activities are allocated to agencies of the United Nations and other organizations, which reflects the level of coordination with other relevant agencies. However, concern was expressed regarding the high number of references in the triennial review to a lack of coordination or collaboration in different areas, within UNDCP and with other relevant agencies. UNDCP is expected to coordinate its activities with relevant parties and collaborate in activities where it is efficient and effective to do so. It was stated that any review of programme priorities and the evaluation of programme results should be done in collaboration with participating partners. The view was expressed that the

publication of two reports on the world drug situation, as reported in paragraph 6 of the evaluation report, represents a duplication of efforts.

380. Concern was expressed that a number of programmes in the areas of demand reduction, monitoring and elimination of illicit crops have not received the expected voluntary contributions. The substantive service provided by UNDCP to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly will be taken into account. It was noted that UNDCP had met the expectations of the special session in designing new programmes to address the drug problem. It was underlined that, regarding priority setting and the funding of activities raised in paragraph 34 of the evaluation report, UNDCP is mainly funded through voluntary contributions, and that the impact of this mode of funding should be taken into account.

381. The view was expressed that the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations had been requested by CPC before the twentieth special session, and that this element should have been reflected in the report. The main thrust of the review was to closely monitor the consequences of merging the drug control and crime prevention programmes and to evaluate the possible synergies.

382. The view was expressed that the criticism in paragraphs 26, 27, 28, 30 and 31 of the evaluation report, regarding specialized information and the formulation of strategies, refers mainly to the methodological approach rather than to the different roles of the relevant elements involved in the drug control programme.

383. It was noted that, regarding the issue of the collection and processing of information, which is one of the problems raised in the evaluation report, the Commission has taken steps to streamline the questionnaires sent to Governments.

384. Concern was expressed that UNDCP, in reporting on national trends, has used data drawn from sources other than the national official data reported to the programme.

385. The recommendations were not in bold as requested by the relevant General Assembly resolutions, the latest being its resolution 55/222. Doubt was expressed on the mandate that authorizes UNDCP to review and evaluate national and multilateral legislations, as highlighted in recommendation 2.

Conclusions and recommendations

386. The Committee took note of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its thirty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (E/AC.51/2001/4).

387. The Committee reiterated the recommendations made at its thirty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of UNDCP, and drew the attention of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the governing body of UNDCP, to considering and following up those recommendations.

388. The Committee encouraged UNDCP to further strengthen its efforts to ensure the availability of funding for the implementation of its programmes.

4. Triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme

389. At its 3rd and 4th meetings, on 11 and 12 June 2001, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme (E/AC.51/2001/5).

390. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report. The representative of the Secretary-General responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

391. Concern and disappointment were expressed at the lack of implementation of many of the recommendations adopted by the Committee three years ago. In particular, disappointment was expressed that neither the in-depth evaluation report nor the CPC conclusions and recommendations on it were submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighth session, as requested by CPC. It was stated that the integration of mandates into the programme should be carried out as recommended in order to improve the focus of the programme. The view was expressed that, although the report stated that recommendation one on strategic management has been implemented, there are still issues outstanding, such as the appropriate attention to be given to some activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice. It was underlined that the programme should devote more attention to its original mandates in favour of crime prevention and criminal justice to counterbalance the excessive attention given to organized crime.

392. It was noted that mechanisms are in place for monitoring standards and norms, but that there is little or no evidence that the recommendation to improve the monitoring has been carried out. Proposals to the twelfth session of the Commission on a revised mechanism for reporting on standards and norms and minimizing the reporting burden on Member States should reflect and incorporate any related proposals made as a follow-up to the related suggestions of the Executive Director to the Commission at its tenth session.

393. The lack of a public information strategy was noted. The suggestion was made that the Centre should consider drawing more on the expertise of the Department of Public Information in developing its information strategy. The tenfold increase in visits to the Centre's web site was noted. The proposal that a focus group discussion be held among the representatives of major user groups of the programme's publications was endorsed on the understanding that it would be done within existing resources.

394. The view was expressed that follow-up work on the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime should be a priority area in the programme. It was also felt that the three global programmes give too much attention to organized crime and not enough to other issues.

395. The Centre should develop a fund-raising strategy in order to avoid an ad hoc approach to funding. This strategy should not be seen as an end in itself but used as a management tool.

Conclusions and recommendations

396. The Committee for Programme and Coordination recommended the approval of the conclusions of the triennial review and the proposed reviews by OIOS contained in them.

5. Future evaluation reports

397. At its 2nd, 3rd and 4th meetings, on 11 and 12 June 2001, as part of its discussion of the evaluation reports submitted to it, the Committee discussed the evaluation process itself.

398. Representatives of the Secretary-General responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the issue.

Future topics for in-depth evaluation

399. At its 2nd meeting, on 11 June 2001, the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services, in his introduction of the evaluation item, suggested the following topics for in-depth evaluation by CPC at its forty-third session, in 2003: "Law of the sea", "Human rights" and "Social development".

Discussion

400. The view was expressed that evaluations carried out at the 10-year point or triennial reviews of the implementation of CPC recommendations were of little value to the Committee. The evaluation process should be an annual process, producing timely information by programme managers that should be fully covered in the budget fascicle submissions. That should include all necessary programmatic information, including the views of relevant participants in the programme. Annual evaluations would allow programme managers to provide clear objectives stating the necessity, or otherwise, of programmes. That information would be presented to CPC. CPC needed that information to allow it to review and assess the value and necessity, or otherwise, of a programme. The Committee would then make recommendations to the General Assembly on the relevance and effectiveness of a programme and on which a decision to provide funding would be made.

401. The view was expressed that there was a continued requirement for evaluations to show results of programmes, including the impact of their results on programme design, delivery and policy directives; that there was a greater requirement for monitoring and evaluation of programmes, particularly where it related to national strategies; and that evaluation reports needed to be succinct and easy to read, with less use of jargon and shorter narratives, and should also be referenced to programmatic activity in relation to objectives and accomplishments as related to the recommendations.

402. The role of the regional commissions needed to be expanded on, in particular the relationship between the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the regional commissions and other actors, either at United Nations Headquarters and/or

in the field, and needed greater explanation with regard to policy development objective-setting and implementation.

403. The view was expressed that there should be a recommendation in all evaluation reports that the relevant specialized intergovernmental bodies should review evaluation reports prior to the CPC review and submit their observations on them to CPC. It was acknowledged that there were problems of timing with that proposal due to the timetable of meetings of those bodies.

404. The view was expressed that it was not appropriate for evaluation reports to contain recommendations on the source of funding for Secretariat activities, or such phrases as "within existing resources" or "if resources are available". The appropriate recommendation should address the issue of whether or not an activity was necessary, and leave decisions on funding to the budgetary process.

Conclusions and recommendations

405. The Committee recommended that evaluation reports be submitted expeditiously to the relevant organs for their consideration.

406. The Committee reaffirmed the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, and recommended that the General Assembly request that all necessary steps be taken to ensure fulfilment of the objectives of article 7 concerning evaluation, taking into account the role and competence of relevant intergovernmental bodies.

407. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the addition of the following two programmes to the schedule of in-depth evaluations (reports on those evaluations were to be submitted to the Committee at its forty-third session):

(a) Law of the sea;

(b) Social development.

Chapter IV

Coordination questions

A. Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 2000

408. At its 20th meeting, on 25 June 2001, the Committee considered the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) for 2001 (E/2001/55).

409. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

410. It was noted that the usefulness of ACC as a vital coordination mechanism for the activities of the organizations of the system needed no further proof. In that context, support was expressed for the role of ACC in promoting a culture of consultation and cooperation among agencies and thereby in enhancing system-wide cohesion.

411. The format and the content of the report were welcomed and it was noted that the report for 2000 represented a marked improvement over the reports of previous years. The report was found to be more readable and more informative and had taken into account the suggestions made by the Committee the previous year.

412. A number of suggestions were put forward for future annual reports. It was suggested that in future ACC overview reports should provide more specific information on problems encountered by ACC in its coordination efforts and how they were resolved. The report should also show how the work programmes of different agencies were coordinated and provide information on the outcome of such coordination efforts. The question of lessons learned and best practices was also raised. It was requested that future reports focus on what ACC was actively doing to fulfil its mandate and to report on the actions of its subcommittees.

413. It was noted that the issues addressed by ACC during 2000, especially such matters as globalization, the digital divide and follow-up to conferences, were indeed priority areas. With reference to the issue of the globalization processes, it was indicated that the United Nations system's engagement with the private sector should be within the boundaries set by the intergovernmental bodies.

414. It was indicated that, as part of its coordinating role, ACC should monitor the way in which its member organizations were complying with the goals and targets established in the Millennium Declaration.

415. Note was also taken of the information in the report on the response of the United Nations system on the drought and food security situation in the countries of the Horn of Africa and of the decline in official development assistance to Africa. Hope was expressed that the United Nations system would appeal to the international community to provide increased assistance to Africa.

416. Note was taken of ACC consideration of staff security and safety and its reaffirmation that the safety and security of United Nations personnel was the

responsibility of Member States. Information was requested, in the future, on the progress ACC was making in implementing the cost-sharing of a security management system to better protect United Nations personnel, as approved by the General Assembly in December 2000.

417. Satisfaction was expressed with the ACC reform process, including its decision to establish two high-level committees. It was suggested that ACC discuss the benefits gained from its reorganization efforts and from consolidating its secretariat. Support was expressed for the proposed new name for ACC. There was also agreement with the priorities identified by ACC for its programme of work for 2001, although it was suggested that in future more details should be provided.

418. Note was taken of the information provided in the report concerning Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations and it was indicated that CPC should recommend that ACC continue to cover the subject.

Conclusions and recommendations

419. The Committee took note of the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 2000 (E/2001/55).

420. The Committee reaffirmed the important role of ACC in coordinating the implementation of the relevant intergovernmental mandates for mobilizing and monitoring the economic assistance efforts of the international community and the United Nations system to States confronted with special economic problems arising from the implementation of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Security Council, and in identifying solutions to the special economic problems of those States as well as in providing support for the efforts of the States affected by the developments in the Balkans for their economic recovery, structural adjustment and development.

421. The Committee recommended that ACC should continue its work in coordinating the implementation of the relevant intergovernmental mandates and report on its progress in the context of its annual overview reports.

422. The Committee stressed the need for the annual report of ACC to place more emphasis on its role in ensuring effective coordination among the organizations of the system.

423. The Committee noted the reform measures adopted by ACC during 2000 and requested it to reflect the practical outcomes of those measures in its next annual overview report.

B. Implementation of the Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

424. At its 5th meeting, on 12 June 2001, the Committee considered the report of the independent evaluation of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa (UNSIA) (E/AC.51/2001/6 and Corr.1) and the comments of the Secretary-General thereon (E/AC.51/2001/7).

425. The report was introduced by the representative of the Economic Commission for Africa (co-Chair of UNSIA). He stated that in the absence of the review team, the Commission was assuming the responsibility for introducing their report. The note by the Secretary-General was introduced by the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries.

Discussion

426. Doubt was raised about the quality and validity of the evaluation report for a number of reasons. First and foremost, it was felt that the duration of two months for the evaluation was inadequate to ensure that a detailed and thorough analysis would be done. In addition, the questionnaire was considered to be too simple to capture, in full, the information required for a comprehensive evaluation. Furthermore, it was noted that only 6 of 53 countries in Africa had been visited. Finally, a number of persons whose names appeared in the list of persons interviewed clarified that they had had general discussions on Africa over lunch and that those could not be considered interviews on UNSIA.

427. It was also observed that, while the report referred to UNSIA's inability to bring in additional financial resources, it had failed to mention those resources that had actually been mobilized through its efforts.

428. In commenting on the note by the Secretary-General, disappointment was expressed that even though the disclaimer contained in the note indicated that the Secretary-General did not necessarily agree with some of the views of the evaluators, no details on this had been given, contrary to established practice. It was also noted that a minority of 8 agencies had commented on the evaluation report, as compared with the 17 agencies that had provided inputs and favourable comments to the 2000 progress report presented to the Committee.

429. Surprise was expressed that agencies that had been positive in the previous reports of UNSIA suddenly contradicted themselves by supporting the findings and main recommendation of the evaluation report.

430. Views were expressed that endorsed the main recommendation of the evaluation report — that UNSIA be brought to a close. However, less support was expressed for the "dialogue framework" which had been recommended to replace it. Doubts were expressed on whether the Economic Commission for Africa was best placed to assume the role recommended by the report, and the view was expressed that what was required in addressing African development was concrete action rather than sterile and prolonged debate.

431. The view was expressed that bringing UNSIA to closure at that point would be premature, in the light of the final review of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s scheduled for 2002. The point was made that the final review of the New Agenda would provide an opportunity for a holistic approach to the evaluation of all initiatives on Africa, including UNSIA, and for consensus on a comprehensive framework based on African ownership and leadership.

432. The view was expressed that the information contained in the evaluation of UNSIA, in particular in paragraph 57 of the evaluation report and in the penultimate paragraph of the note by the Secretary-General, made it clear that the United

Nations Secretariat, as well as the agencies involved, had had a role in obstructing the progress of UNSIA.

Conclusion and recommendation

433. The Committee requested that a more detailed examination be conducted of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa, in the context of the final evaluation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, and be submitted to it for consideration at its forty-second session.

C. Draft system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 2002-2005

Proposed system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 2002-2005

434. At its 4th meeting, on 12 June 2001, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 2002-2005 (E/CN.6/2001/4), the letter dated 24 May 2001 from the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women to the Chairperson of the Committee (E/AC.51/2001/8) and its annexes, resolution 45/3 on the proposed plan and the comments by some Member States of the Commission on the Status of Women on the proposed plan.

435. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the item.

Discussion

436. It was acknowledged that the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed plan had been fully discussed by Member States at the forty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women and at its resumed forty-fifth session, in May 2001.

437. The view was expressed that it is important to eradicate trafficking in women and girls and work towards eliminating traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women.

438. It was further expressed that the document had been thoroughly studied, and in order for it to be a fruitful one it should have included measures adopted by the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, held in June 2000, at which the Assembly had encouraged the regional commissions to develop a database system to include programmes and projects of all the organizations of the United Nations system as a further means of evaluating the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action.

439. The view was expressed that information on programmes and activities carried out to implement the Beijing Platform for Action was not well known and that there should be greater dissemination of information in this regard.

Conclusion and recommendation

440. The Committee took note of the report by the Secretary-General on the proposed system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 2002-2005 (E/CN.6/2001/4), and of the letter dated 24 May 2001 from the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women to the Chairperson of the Committee (E/AC.51/2001/8).

Chapter V

Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit

The use of consultants in the United Nations

441. At its 9th meeting, on 15 June 2001, the Committee considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) entitled "The use of consultants in the United Nations" (A/55/59) and the comments of the Secretary-General thereon (A/55/59/Add.1). The report of the Joint Inspection Unit was introduced by Inspector Armando Duque González.

Discussion

442. The report of the Joint Inspection Unit was overwhelmingly appreciated. Its contents provided a rigorous analysis of an important subject which had attracted the attention of Member States over many years and contained constructive and action-oriented recommendations. The view was expressed that it was a good example of how JIU reports should be modelled.

443. Concern was expressed over what was perceived as the dissuasive underlying tone of some of the comments of the Secretary-General.

444. The possibility of the excessive and duplicative use of consultants remained a major concern of Member States, as was the unbalanced geographical distribution in the selection of consultants. Support was expressed for the recommendations aimed at ensuring that pertinent information was made available to programme managers so as to avoid the use of consultants when expertise was available within the Secretariat and to avoid duplicative activities. It was noted that the Office of Human Resources Management was making progress in the development of the skills inventory project and the hope was expressed that it would be completed as soon as possible. Concern was expressed, however, over the confusing and even contradictory terms of paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 of the Secretary-General's comments related to the need for an electronic information system covering the substantive programmes of the United Nations, as a means to avoid duplicative activities.

445. Considerable importance was attached to the need to improve the geographical distribution and the establishment of appropriate norms to that end, as well as to the full and transparent reporting to pertinent legislative and oversight bodies. It was also stressed that the Committee should ensure that there was adequate follow-up.

446. The view was also expressed that an enforced or rigid system for the geographical distribution of consultancies should not be established.

447. Emphasis should also be given by the Secretariat to ensuring an improved gender distribution in the use of consultants.

448. The view was expressed that the policy of personnel reduction encouraged the excessive use of consultants from the countries hosting United Nations headquarters or offices. Concern was expressed with regard to the inability of the current monitoring systems to detect the continuous use of a limited number of consultants, in contradiction to the current rules.

449. It was suggested that in order to improve the use of resources and to avoid duplication of efforts, the use of comprehensive reports should be encouraged.

450. Concern was expressed that annex 1 to the report was not consistent with the provisions of paragraph 4 of section IX of General Assembly resolution 53/221 of 7 April 1999, in which the Assembly had requested that in the submission of reports containing lists of staff, the established practice of showing the representation of staff according to major geographical groupings should be discontinued and that countries should be listed in alphabetical order, and in that regard views were expressed that the Secretary-General should ensure that future reports of the Joint Inspection Unit were consistent with that resolution.

Conclusions and recommendations

451. The Committee welcomed the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the use of consultants in the United Nations and expressed its appreciation to the Unit for its analysis of the issue and its concrete recommendations.

452. The Committee expressed disappointment over the lack of progress in establishing mechanisms to ensure avoidance of duplication of activities and in developing norms aimed at attracting consultants on a wide geographical basis.

453. The Committee noted the lack of information on the gender perspective in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit.

454. The Committee considered recommendation 5 and requested the Secretary-General to study different methodologies which might be used to correct the geographical imbalance in hiring consultants and to report to it on workable options to enable Member States to make an informed choice among alternative systems at its forty-second session.

455. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly endorse recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9 and 10 of the Joint Inspection Unit and to request the Joint Inspection Unit to review the progress made in the implementation of the approved recommendations contained in its report.

Chapter VI

Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate

456. The Committee considered agenda item 7, entitled "Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate", and reviewed the implementation of the conclusions and recommendations agreed to by the Committee on the matter at its thirty-eighth, thirty-ninth and fortieth sessions.

Discussion

Progress in implementation of the Committee's conclusions and recommendations

457. The view was expressed that the Committee might wish to consider other matters related to its methods of work which had previously been discussed in the Committee, but on which no decisions had been taken, such as strengthening the relationship between the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, rationalization of the Committee's work, making efficient use of conference services and placing time limits on the oral presentations of the Secretariat. The view was also expressed that the Committee had made progress over the years in its method of work.

Secretariat

458. The view was expressed that, despite the praiseworthy efforts of the Secretariat to produce draft reports on time, there was a noticeable difference related to the diminution of the secretariat of the Committee. It was stated that the Committee's secretariat should be enhanced.

The role of observers

459. The views were expressed that the inputs of observers enriched the discussion of the Committee, and that their participation was in the interest of the Committee. Furthermore, the more inclusive the participation of observers, the fewer the problems generated in the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. Bearing in mind the limits proscribed by the rules and regulations, the participation of observers in the work of the Committee should be fully inclusive.

Use of terminology

460. Delegations expressed the view that the terms "takes note of" and "notes" were neutral terms that did not mean approval or disapproval. Dissatisfaction was expressed with the opinion rendered by the Legal Counsel (A/C.5/55/42) that the term "takes note of" is not neutral. It was also stated that the Committee should have a clear understanding of what these terms mean, and that this was a matter on which the General Assembly should pronounce itself.

Organization of work

461. It was stated that, when planning its programme of work, the Committee should be sensitive to the concerns of small delegations; the meetings should be organized so as to maximize their ability to participate. For example, the items for the formal meeting should be set for a fixed date and time, and speakers should be allotted time during that period for their interventions. The informal consultations should be arranged only during the last week or week and a half of the session.

Documentation

462. It was noted that the Secretariat is able to issue documents only when they are available, but that it was important for documents to be issued in a timely manner to facilitate the prompt commencement of work.

Conclusions and recommendations

463. The Committee reaffirmed the conclusions and recommendations adopted on its working methods and procedures at its thirty-eighth, thirty-ninth and fortieth sessions.

464. The Committee considered that the terms "takes note of" and "notes" used in the present report are neutral terms that constitute neither approval nor disapproval, and looked forward to further guidance from the General Assembly on this question during the fifty-sixth session.

465. Regarding the discussion part of the Committee's report, the Committee for Programme and Coordination reaffirmed that it was only a reflection of some of the views of individual Member States and should not be seen as reflecting those of the Secretariat.

Chapter VII

Provisional agenda for the forty-second session of the Committee

Note by the Secretariat

466. In pursuance of paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/41 of 10 May 1979, and paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 34/50 of 23 November 1979, the Committee shall submit to the Council and to the Assembly, for their review, the provisional agenda for its forty-second session, together with the required documentation.

467. In its decision 1983/163 of 22 July 1983, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions were adopted, any request for documentation that exceeded the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources; and to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where duplication of documentation was likely to occur and/or where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that dealt with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

468. The draft provisional agenda, as set out below, for the forty-second session of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, prepared on the basis of existing legislative authority, will be completed at the end of the current session in the light of recommendations adopted by the Committee:

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

3. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.

   Documentation

   Outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

4. Programme questions:

   (a) Programme planning:

   Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000-2001;

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000-2001

   (b) Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (Regulation 4.13 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation)

(c) Evaluation.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of the legal affairs programme (A/55/16, para. 234 (b))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council services programme (A/55/16, para. 234 (b))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee on Programme and Coordination at its thirty-ninth session on the in-depth evaluation of the Disarmament programme (A/54/16)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee on Programme and Coordination at its thirty-ninth session on the in-depth evaluation of the Electoral assistance programme (A/54/16)

5. Coordination questions:

(a) Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination;

Documentation

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 2001

(b) United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the final evaluation of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (E/AC.51/2001/L.6/Add.39/Rev.1, para __)

6. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit.

7. Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate.

8. Provisional agenda for the forty-third session.

9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-second session (part I and part II).

Notes

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/55/6/Rev.1).

Annex I

Agenda for the forty-first session of the Committee

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.
4. Programme questions:
   (a) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003;
   (b) Evaluation.
5. Coordination questions:
   (a) Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination;
   (b) Implementation of the Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;
   (c) Draft system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 2002-2005.
6. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit.
7. Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate.
8. Provisional agenda for the forty-second session.
9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-first session.

Annex II

List of documents before the Committee at its forty-first session

A/55/59	Report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "The use of consultants in the United Nations"
A/55/59/Add.1	Comments by the Secretary-General on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the use of consultants in the United Nations
A/56/6	Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003
A/56/6 (Introduction)	Foreword and introduction
A/56/6 (Sect. 1)	Overall policy-making, direction and coordination
A/55/6 (Sect. 2)	General Assembly affairs and conference services
A/56/6 (Sect. 3)	Political affairs
A/56/6 (Sect. 4)	Disarmament
A/56/6 (Sect. 5)	Peacekeeping operations
A/56/6 (Sect. 6)	Peaceful uses of outer space
A/56/6 (Sect. 8)	Legal affairs
A/56/6 (Sect. 9)	Economic and social affairs
A/56/6 (Sect. 10)	Africa: New Agenda for Development
A/56/6 (Sect. 11A)	Trade and development
A/56/6 (Sect. 11B)	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO
A/56/6 (Sect. 12)	Environment
A/56/6 (Sect. 13)	Human settlements
A/56/6 (Sect. 14)	Crime prevention and criminal justice
A/56/6 (Sect. 15)	International drug control
A/56/6 (Sect. 16)	Economic and social development in Africa
A/56/6 (Sect. 17)	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific
A/56/6 (Sect. 18)	Economic development in Europe
A/56/6 (Sect. 19)	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean
A/56/6 (Sect. 20)	Economic and social development in Western Asia
A/56/6 (Sect. 21)	Regular programme of technical cooperation
A/56/6 (Sect. 22)	Human rights
A/56/6 (Sect. 23)	Protection of and assistance to refugees
A/56/6 (Sect. 24)	Palestine refugees

A/56/6 (Sect. 25)	Humanitarian assistance
A/56/6 (Sect. 26)	Public information
A/56/6 (Sect. 27A to G)	Administration
A/56/6 (Sect. 28)	Internal oversight
A/56/6 (Sect. 29)	Jointly financed administrative activities
A/56/6/(Sect. 33)	Development Account
A/56/82	Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the efficiency and the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations
E/2001/55	Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 2000
E/AC.51/2001/1	Annotated provisional agenda for the forty-first session of the Committee for Programme and Coordination
E/AC.51/2001/2	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of sustainable development
E/AC.51/2001/3	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of the population programme
E/AC.51/2001/4	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme
E/AC.51/2001/5	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme
E/AC.51/2001/6 and Corr.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report entitled "Independent evaluation of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa"
E/AC.51/2001/7	Notes by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments on the report entitled "Independent evaluation of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa"
E/AC.51/2001/8	Letter dated 24 May 2001 from the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women to the Chairperson of the Committee for Programme and Coordination

E/AC.51/2001/9	Letter dated 8 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations and Coordinator of the Least Developed Countries addressed to the Chairperson of the Committee for Programme and Coordination
E/AC.51/2001/10	Letter dated 12 June 2001 from the Chairman of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development addressed to the Chairperson of the Committee for Programme and Coordination
E/AC.51/2001/L.1/ Rev.3	Note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation for the forty-first session
E/AC.51/2001/L.2/ Rev.1	Note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme of work for the forty-first session
E/AC.51/2001/L.3/ Rev.1	Note by the Secretariat containing a list of reports of the Joint Inspection Unit
E/AC.51/2001/L.4	Note by the Secretariat on the current notional costs of documentation and utilization of interpretation services
E/AC.51/2001/L.5	Note by the Secretariat on the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-second session of the Committee
E/AC.51/2001/L.6 and Add.1-42	Draft report of the Committee on the work of its forty-first session
E/CN.6/2001/4	Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women 2002-2005
E/AC.51/2001/INF/1 and Add.1	List of delegations

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